PALL MALL GAZETTE

An Evening Newspaper and Review.

No. 7433.—Vol. XLIX. *SATURDAY EVENING, JANUARY 12, 1889.* *Price One Penny.*

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

DRURY LANE.
(Augustus Harris, Lessee and Manager.)
TO-DAY, at 1.30 and 7.30, THE BABES IN THE WOOD. Messrs. Harry Nicholls, Herbert Campbell, C. Lauri, jun., Stevens, Leno, Griffiths Bros., Andrews, Inch, Pleon, Henderson, Stanley, Dezano, and Harry Payne; Mesdames Florence Dysart, Duggan, Mayer, ÆNEA, Grey, Charteris, Deering, and Harriet Vernon. Box-office open daily from 10 to 6.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8.30 precisely, the new original Drama, by Mr. Haddon Chambers, entitled "CAPTAIN SWIFT." Mr. Tree, Mr. Macklin, Mr. Kemble, Mr. Fuller Mellish, Mr. Allan, Mr. Harwood, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Brookfield; Lady Monckton, Miss Rose Leclercq, Miss Cudmore, and Mrs. Tree. Preceded, at 7.50, by THE DUCHESS OF BAYSWATER AND CO. Doors open at 7.30. Box-office open daily, 10 till 5. MORNING PERFORMANCE SATURDAY, January 19, at 2.30.
SPECIAL MATINEES of THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR, THIS DAY (by special desire), and EVERY WEDNESDAY, at 2.30. Seats may now be booked.

LYCEUM THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Irving.)
MACBETH, TO-NIGHT, at 7.45. Overture 7.40. Macbeth, Mr. Henry Irving; Lady Macbeth, Miss Ellen Terry. Messrs. Alexander, Wenman, Tyars, Webster, Howe, Haviland, Harvey, Johnson, Raynor, Outram, Lacy, Archer, &c.; Misses Marriott, Seaman, Desborough, Coleridge, Ivor, &c. Box-office (Mr. J. Hurst) open 10 to 5. Seats can also be booked by letter or telegram. Carriages 11.—LYCEUM.

TOOLE'S THEATRE.
THE DON. Mr. J. L. TOOLE. EVERY EVENING, at 8.30, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Merivale's successful Comedy, in Three Acts, THE DON. 218th Time. EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.

SAVOY THEATRE.
(Proprietor and Manager, R. D'Oyly Carte.)
TO-DAY, at 2.30 and 8.15, the New and Original Opera, in Two Acts, by W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan, entitled THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD; or, THE MERRYMAN AND HIS MAID. Preceded at 7.20 by MRS. JARRAMIE'S GENIE. Doors open at 7. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Doors open at 2. Box-office open continuously from 9 A.M. to 11 P.M.

ADELPHI THEATRE.
(A. and S. Gatti, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)
THIS EVENING, at 8.0, THE SILVER FALLS. Mr. William Terriss; Messrs. C. Cartwright, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shine, Royce Carleton, Bardley Turner, J. Carne, C. Eaton, James East, H. Russell; Mesdames Millward, O. Nethersole, G. Esmond, A. Dairolles, and Clara Jecks. At 7.15, Farce. MORNING PERFORMANCE TO-DAY (Saturday), at 2.0.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.
(Mr. Thomas Thorne, Sole Lessee and Manager.)
THIS EVENING, at 8.30, JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART. 257th Time. Preceded at 7.30 by THE POET. Mr. Thomas Thorne; Messrs. William Rignold, Fred Thorne, Cyril Maude, J. S. Blythe, Scott Buist, F. Grove, Frank Gillmore, and Mr. H. B. Conway; Mesdames Gladys Homfrey, Annie Irish, M. A. Giffard, Banister, B. Harrison, Arnold, K. McNeill, Bowman, Adlercron, Maunder, and Winifred Emery.
N.B.—SPECIAL MATINEE, MONDAY NEXT at 2.30, of a new fantastic Comedy by Robert Buchanan, entitled "THAT DOCTOR CUPID," in which Mr. Thomas Thorne and powerful company will appear.

GAIETY THEATRE.
THIS DAY, at 2.30, FAUST UP TO DATE, and THIS EVENING, at 7.30, FIRST MATE. At 8.30, FAUST UP TO DATE. Miss Florence St. John, Miss Violet Cameron, Miss Marie Illington, Miss Fanny Robina, Miss Jenny M'Nulty, Miss Lillian Price, Miss M. Jones, Miss F. Levey, Miss A. Young, Miss E. Greville, Miss M. Love; Mr. E. J. Lonnen, Mr. H. Parker, Mr. Charles Ross, Mr. E. Haslem, and Mr. George Stone.

TERRY'S THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Edward Terry.)
The safest Theatre in the world, constructed entirely with concrete and iron absolutely fireproof, lighted throughout by electricity.
TO-DAY, at 2.30 and 8.30, SWEET LAVENDER, by A. W. Pinero. 302nd Time. Messrs. Edward Terry, Alfred Bishop, Brandon Thomas, F. Kerr, H. Reeves Smith, Sant Matthews, Prince Miller; Mesdames M. A. Victor, Carlotta Addison, Maude Millett, and Blanche Horlock. Doors open at 8. Carriages 11. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Box-office open from 10 to 5. Telephone 2,782.—Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. Brickwell.

GLOBE THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee, Mr. Richard Mansfield.)
TO-NIGHT, and EVERY EVENING, at 8.15, SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER will be performed. Miss KATE VAUGHAN being specially engaged to play Miss HARDCASTLE, while Mr. LIONEL BROUGH will appear as TONY LUMPKIN. Mr. Mansfield has been ordered by his physician, Sir Morell Mackenzie, to cease work for a time.
RICHARD III., Shakspeare's tragedy, will be played at this theatre upon Mr. MANSFIELD'S RETURN

STRAND THEATRE.
(Under the management of Mr. C. H. Hawtrey.)
(By arrangement with Mr. Willie Edouin.)
TO-NIGHT will be performed, a Burlesque in Three Acts, entitled ATALANTA, at 9 o'clock. Mr. George Capel, Mr. Tom Squire, Mr. Fleming Norton, Mr. W. F. Hawtrey, and Mr. Willie Warde; Miss Muriel Aubrey, Miss Carlotta Zerbini, Misses S. and G. Baring, and Miss Marie Linden. Preceded, at 8.10, by A HIGHLAND LEGACY, by Mr. Brandon Thomas. Box-office open from Ten to Five.

COURT THEATRE.
(Proprietors, Mrs. John Wood and Mr. Arthur Chudleigh.)
(Under the management of Mrs. John Wood.)
EVERY EVENING, at 9.0 (by arrangement with Mr. John Hare), LES SURPRISES DU DIVORCE, adapted by Sydney Grundy, and entitled MAMMA. 100th Performance. Preceded at 8 by BOX AND COX. Doors open 7.45. Box-office open 10 to 10. Telephone 3,031. EVERY AFTERNOON, at 2.30, LITTLE GOODY TWO SHOES. Special prices: Stalls, 7s. 6d.; dress circle, 5s.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. Horace Sedger.)
TO-NIGHT at 8, PAUL JONES. Misses Agnes Huntington, Phyllis Broughton, Kate Cutler, St. Cyr, Jeannie Mills, and Miss Wadman; Messrs. Harry Monkhouse, Henry Ashley, Templer Saxe, Albert James, George Preston, and Frank Wyatt.

LYRIC THEATRE.
(Sole Proprietor and Manager, Henry J. Leslie.)
TO-DAY, at 2.30 and 8.15, DOROTHY. 844th Performance. Mesdames Effie Chapuy, Florence Perry, H. Coveney, F. Neville, and Amy Augarde; Messrs. Ben Davies, Furneaux Cook, Arthur Williams, J. Le Hay, S. King, and C. Hayden Coffin. At 7.30, WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30.

AVENUE THEATRE.
(Manager, Mr. H. Watkin.)
TO-DAY, at 2, and TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, NADGY. Mdlle. Vanoni, Mr. Arthur Roberts, and powerful company. Conducted by Mr. John Crook. Preceded in the evening at 7.30 by QUITS. Doors open at 1.30 and 7.15; Box-office open daily from 10 to 5 o'clock. Telephone 3,241. Children half price to Matinees.—R. D'Albertson, Acting Manager.

THE TRIUMPH OF ISLAM.

THE bursting up of victorious Mahommedanism in Uganda is very important. For what does it mean? It means that the experiment of confining Islam within narrow boundaries by compression from without is producing its natural results. The bursting force of the Arabian explosive increases with every increase of pressure under which it explodes. If MAHOMMED had been left alone, and the Greek Empire had contented itself with raising the best bulwark it could at the most defensible frontier against the inroads of the Caliphs, the history of the world might have been different. What persecution was to the Christian Church the attempt to suppress by the sword has been to Islam. Europe has for some time been trying to trample out the flame in all the borders of Africa, and now in its centre the conflagration rages unchecked.

Africa is not unlike a great block of buildings crammed with combustibles, in the heart of which a fire has broken out. Outside, at the rim of the continent as it were, all the European fire-engines are busy. France at Tunis, England in Egypt, Italy at Massowah, and Germany at Zanzibar are all endeavouring to extinguish the blaze. But they are like so many fire-engines which can only play upon the approaches to the main building without being able to throw even a single jet upon the real seat of the conflagration. The fire, indeed, driven in upon itself, blazes with still fiercer heat, until at last the spectators see with alarm the roof of the central pile fall crashing into the flames. That roof in the case of Africa is the State of Uganda, whose seizure by the Arab slave traders is in many respects the most important news of the week. Uganda is far away, and but little known, but it was the only organized State in the Central African anarchy which was not Mahommedan. North of the Matabele there was no State deserving of the name of a State in Africa until you reach the outposts of the Arab Empire. Uganda proper, lying round the north shore of Victoria Nyanza, is a country of about 20,000 square miles in area, but, with its dependencies, covers quite 60,000 square miles. East and west, and even north, west into Unyoro, the Uganda influence was supreme, but the subject states are mainly slave preserves, and will only be too glad to get rid of its domination. The population of Uganda has been estimated by Mr. STANLEY at 2,775,000, and by Mr. FELLKIN at five millions; both estimates are little more than guesses. At Uganda there is a kingdom with a standing army, an established dynasty, and all the rudiments of a native empire. King MTESA was nominally a Mahommedan, and his conversion by Mr. STANLEY to a nominal Christianity was one of the most bizarre incidents in the history of African adventure. Here is the tale as STANLEY told it himself to one of our representatives four years ago, of the conversion of Uganda, which has now had so sudden and so disastrous a sequel:—

"Now, STAMLEE," said the King, "tell me and my chiefs what you know of angels." "That was a puzzler to me," remarked Mr. STANLEY, looking up from his book with a twinkle of his eye. However, he made the best of the situation, and gave MTESA a vivid sketch "from DORÉ, MICHAEL ANGELO, EZEKIEL, and MILTON." Then the Emperor cast covetous eyes on "my Bible and my Church of England Prayer-book," and henceforth when there was no fighting to be done, "we were to be seen—the King, Court, DALLINGTON, and I—engaged in an abstract of the Holy Scriptures. Having abundance of writing paper with me, I made a large book for him, into which the translations were copied." When his abridged Bible was completed, he called his chiefs together and addressed them. "Stamlee," he said, "has come to Uganda with a book older than the Koran of Mahommed, and Stamlee says Mahommed was a liar. Now I want you, my chiefs and soldiers, to tell me what shall we do. Shall we believe in Jesus and Moses or Mahommed?" One answered, "Let us take that which is best," and eventually the court decided that the first were the best, and in this manner Mtesa renounced Islamism, and embraced Christianity.

Missionaries flocked in to confirm Mr. STANLEY'S convert in his new faith; but although they made some converts the King himself remained a debauched and cruel savage until his death.

His successor, who was young and weak and cruel and childless, was at one time hostile to the missionaries who had settled in his country on his father's invitation. But he afterwards received them kindly, and our last advices seem to show that all was going well. Last October, however, his attempt to destroy his Janissaries by starving them to death was detected. His soldiers attacked the Palace, and he fled. His elder brother, being made King, offended the Arabs by distributing the spoils of office to the Christians, whereupon the Arabs combined to effect a complete revolution in Uganda. They murdered many of the Christian officials, replacing them by their own adherents. The English and French missions were then attacked by the Arabs, who stripped and burnt everything and killed many native converts. The significance of this overthrow is to be found in a letter which the Arabs have written exulting in their triumph in Uganda, and prophesying the extermination of all missionary efforts in Central Africa, in revenge for England's anti-slave trade policy. They declare that Uganda has now become a Mahommedan kingdom. Thus perishes the one non-Moslem State in Central Africa. Islam is triumphant. It is the latest but by no means the last result that has followed the mad march of poor Colonel HICKS into the desert after the Mahdi. What the end may be no man at present can foresee.

THE SATURNALIA OF OFFICIAL TASTE IN THE OLD WOODS.

By the Hon. Auberon Herbert.

I am glad that Mr. Percy Lindley has raised his voice against the axe and bill-hook in Epping Forest. Well do some of us know from bitter experience the terrors of the official mind, hand, and eye, where it is a question of preserving a beautiful old thing. What muse, I wonder, would help me to sing the official Panjandrum, who survives all ages and changes, with his sublime confidence in his own taste, his happy indifference to those who have lived their life admiring, be it the picture, or building, or forest of the past, that has been surrendered into his hand, and his imperturbable assurance that he can always improve upon either nature or the work of the old craftsman, and do something better on his own account? and when the muse had completed her task, would she allow me to deal in prose, and remark that we must rarely expect the official Amphithean—to employ the last bit of néologie—to descend in his own proper person from the altitudes where he dwells, to look after his gilding of gold and painting of the lily, but we must learn to accept these, as we best may, at the hands of the small under-men who fulfil his orders?

I read Mr. Lindley's account with a cold feeling sympathetically creeping down my back, for some of us live daily dreading the same kind of thing in the New Forest as that which he describes. Personally I don't know of any tangle having been swept away, though I am informed that such has been the case; but new kinds of trees, such as limes, sycamores, scarlet oaks, cedars, have been most unsuitably planted in the old historic woods, or the open forest; trees are cut—as I personally hold against the Act of Parliament, certainly against its spirit, if not its letter, in the old words—and larger schemes are cherished for obtaining permission to fence in the old woods and thus bring them wholly and beyond dispute under official control. The cause at the bottom seems to me exactly what Mr. Lindley has stated. Those who are responsible do not understand, as we conceive it ought to be understood, the nature of the thing of which they are the momentary guardians. Their heads seem full of the idea of park management, of pretty effects, of achieving something that will look well from the financial or forestry point of view, of filling a space with as many cubic feet of timber as it will hold. To all this a certain section of us are opposed in deadly opposition. We want what is natural woodland to remain natural woodland. We want the tangle to cover such spaces as it will, the old trees to be left till they fall, the young trees to be allowed to struggle up and replace the old in their own fashion, and the cattle to wander freely through it all. It does not grieve us overmuch because we know that this is the price that we have to pay for natural beauty—that the cattle destroy some of the young trees, that some young trees injure each other in their growth, that many open treeless spaces alternate with the spaces where the young trees are coming up—all these things are part of the struggle of nature—a struggle that is ever varying in its character, and ever full of beauty and full of interest. What we object to is the ill-advised attempt to "take in hand," to doctor and manipulate, for the sake of some special view, the very few remaining bits that are left of an older England, and gradually to turn them into a poor sort of park-land, or a poor sort of plantation. When this is once done, when these few priceless fragments are once fairly lost, then, I suspect, a number of

LITERARY NOTES, NEWS, AND ECHOES.

I have read, I suppose, some thirty or forty notices of Ellen Terry's Lady Macbeth, but in none of them have I seen any allusion to her own account of how she came to take up the character. It was her success, she has told us, in playing a bad fairy that led her thoughts to Lady Macbeth. She writes: "Having made a success as the bad fairy, I, doubting my powers of being bad in a play before, immediately set to work and studied the words of being bad in a play before, immediately set to work and studied the words of Lady Macbeth." Miss Terry was just nine when she thus took the part in hand.

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Messrs. Longmans are to publish Mr. Rider Haggard's new novel, "Cleopatra," now running in the *Illustrated*, in the coming season. "Cleopatra" is said by some of Mr. Haggard's admirers who have read it in manuscript to be the best novel he has yet written.

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The words "froudacity" and "froudacious," which have already passed into common speech, and small "f's," in Australia, are likely to be soon taken up in the West Indies. For Mr. Thomas, a West Indian scholar of great distinction, and for many years head of the Education Department in Trinidad, has prepared an elaborate defence of the West Indian "black men," in the course of which he will expose a large number of what he considers froudacious statements in Mr. Froude's "English in the West Indies." The work will be published very shortly.

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An American critic has called down upon himself a rebuke from Mr. Andrew Lang because he "superfluously" applied the epithets "weird and sombre" to some poetical palace in which "Death lay dying." "Would that 'weird' and 'sombre,' too, lay dying!" cries Mr. Lang. But why should we impoverish our language because it is open to abuse? It is true that "weird" was for some time one of the catchwords of æsthetic slang, but it is gradually recovering tone, and will soon be, as it was before, a useful and even indispensable word. As for "sombre," how can it have incurred Mr. Lang's wrath? It expresses a shade of meaning which without it must remain uninterpreted, and is on the whole a full-sounding and creditable term. When the much-needed literary Crimes Act is passed, this trick of fantastic and petulant word-boycotting should be made a high misdemeanour.

I am very glad to see that Mr. P. G. Hamerton has collected his papers on "French and English" for publication by Messrs. Macmillan. I have always thought that Mr. Hamerton is a much better writer on social and political questions than on art; and his sympathetic knowledge of French life (and not merely Parisian) is so "extensive and peculiar" that his forthcoming volume is sure to be both instructive and important.

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Apropos of puns, about which the *Pall Mall Gazette* reproduced an article the other day from *Temple Bar*, "I was surprised," says a correspondent, "to see no reference to one of the very best puns in the language—I mean Hood's criticism of the labours bestowed by Mrs. Fry and others upon the criminal classes: such labours, he said, were quite 'Newgatory' (nugatory)." "The late Mr. Fawcett," says another correspondent, "is credited with a very good pun. A Post-office official named Gunn had committed some offence. The secretarial recommendation was that this Gunn be discharged. The Postmaster-General's endorsement was, 'No, let him off.'"

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According to the writer in *Temple Bar*, "no such thing as a pun exists in serious literature." Several correspondents write to challenge this statement. "Milton, writes one, has several puns—as, for instance, in "Paradise Lost," book iv.:—

And, in contempt,
At one slight *bound* high o'erleaped all *bound*.

And again, in book vi., several passages contain numerous puns: for example, describing the use of gunpowder, Satan says:—

Heaven, witness thou anon, while we *discharge*
Freely our part: ye, who appointed stand,
Do as you have in *charge*, and briefly *touch*
What *we propound*, and *loud*, that all may hear.

And Belial says:—

Leader, the *terms we sent* were *terms of weight*,
Of *hard contents*, and *full of force, urged home*.

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The forthcoming number of the *Universal Review* will contain among other articles a story by André Theuriet, entitled "Le Trésor du Lac," fully illustrated by W. R. Bunny, and Guy de Maupassant's latest nouvelle, "Un Soir;" both of these will be in French. There will be an article on "Hunting in the Midlands," by Mrs. Kennard, illustrated with several sketches by Mr. Percy Yeatherd; "The Feast of Saturn," by A. W. Verrall; "Orators in the House," by H. W. Lucy ("Toby, M.P."); "Beauty and Evolution," by Professor Mivart; and "The Future of Canada," by Professor Shaler (Harvard University).

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Even the detractors of our modern school of poetry are forced to admit that it is distinguished by a technical punctiliousness unknown in the good old times. To be "impeccable" (surely a peccant word) is the ambition of the latter day bard, and a false rhyme is regarded as little short of a moral delinquency. It is possible to carry this punctiliousness too far, but that is erring on the safe side. Mr. Alfred Austin, in the current *Athenæum*, makes a strange swerve to the side of licence. The octave of his sonnet called "Love's Unity" contains the following rhymes—"best," "rest," "*refreshed*," and "breast." This is a woeful solecism, because it suggests the vulgar and cacophonous mispronunciation "besht," "resht," &c. We should have imagined such a lapse impossible in a living poet of any repute whatever.

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Odds and Ends:—Kirkstall Abbey, which Colonel North has just presented to Leeds, is the scene of Joseph Hatton's popular shilling story "The Abbey Murder," published by Spencer Blackett.—At a sale of autographs in Berlin the other day £27 15*s.* was paid for a letter written by Mozart in 1782, £25 for a letter of Lessing's, £15 5*s.* for a letter of Goethe's, £12 10*s.* for a letter of Beethoven's, and £9 for one of Schiller's.—A "Reading Union" on a novel plan, for the encouragement of home-reading in English literature, has been formed in connection with *Wit and Wisdom* (3, St. Bride-street).—A somewhat similar scheme is that of the "Spider Club," the members of which pledge themselves to a systematic course of reading of at least one hour a day. (Address: Miss Horn, Hazeldean, New Barnet.)—Mr. Gosse is to lecture on "The English Novel in the Seventeenth Century" at the London Institution next Thursday.—Mr. Cosmo Monkhouse will write "Charles Kingsley" in the "Great Writers" Series.—Archdeacon Farrar's "Lives of the Fathers" will be published by Messrs. Black next month.—The letter from Shelley to Graham given on pp. 53 and 54 of Dowden's Life (vol. i.) turns out to have been a forgery.

X. Y. Z.

good people will be smitten with sorrow and shame, and ask themselves in astonishment why they quietly let such a thing be. I would propose to Mr. Percy Lindley and his friends that we join hands in this matter, and that he or some person with more time and a greater stock of youth and energy than I possess should call together in London all those who wish to preserve in their natural state the few fragments of old historic woods that yet remain, and to save them from those trimmings, clearings, fellings, plantings, and fencings which are the first steps in the cockneyfying process. The most plausible reasons can be given for the different steps that are taken; we shall be told that the young trees are not taking the place of the old woods, that they are injuring each other, that young trees and cattle are an impossible combination, that old trees when they begin to decay should be sacrificed to young trees, and that timber must be had for various purposes. I think, as far as the New Forest is concerned, we can satisfy any person who really cares for old woods, and who knows what the varying and broken character of natural woodland is, who dismisses all ideas of park management and scientific forest management from his head, as far as these few fragments are concerned—whose claim to be left alone rests entirely on their beauty and their historic interest—that these reasons are not well founded, and that the one true treatment of these few relics of the "old greenwood time" is to turn them into sanctuaries, absolutely safe from official experiments in taste, woodcraft, or finance. I may add that we have two New Forest Preservation Societies, the elder and the younger. The elder society, which is principally composed of residents, has fought many good battles in defence of the Forest in the past, and has been just again reorganized, with a view to present necessities. The younger society is principally composed of those living at a distance, but interested in the preservation of the natural character of the old woods. The two societies, notwithstanding certain differences and fighting in somewhat different fashion, are, I am glad to say, in friendly relations with each other, and linked together by some members who belong to both. I shall be glad to send papers about the younger society (the subscription is one shilling a year) to all who are interested and who write to me here, Old House, Ringwood, and I shall be glad to lay before the members any proposal—if Mr. Lindley or his friends should see his way to make one—to hold some meeting in London, at which the public attention should be called to our claim that the old woods should not be altered in their old natural character.

PENNY PHOTOS FOR THE PEOPLE.

AN INTERVIEW WITH MR. C. H. RUSSELL.

THE automatic box has been put to many purposes—to the vending of pills as well as of caramels, of postcards as well as of scents. In no respect, however, would it seem to have a more promising future than as the retailer of penny photos of popular people of the time. The automatic box has apparently done something to satisfy that widespread interest in the personalities of our leading men and women which is so marked a characteristic of the time, and it was to obtain some information on this phase of the subject that a representative interviewed Mr. C. H. Russell, the manager of the Automatic Box Company—of which, by the way, Charles Wyndham is chairman—who is chiefly responsible for the introduction of the automatic principle into English trade. In the course of conversation Mr. Russell made an announcement so startling that it must be given the first place. If Mr. Russell's anticipations are realized a month or two will witness a development of his original idea which must put all others into the shade.

YOUR PHOTO FOR A PENNY.

"I hope before very long," Mr. Russell observed, "to give the public their own photo for a penny."

"Why, what do you mean?" I exclaimed.

"Simply that anybody standing before an automatic machine and putting a penny into the slot will receive their own photo in exchange."

"How do you expect to do that?"

"It is easy enough. There will be in the box a camera, with a roll of paper upon which the impression will be cast. This paper will be in perforated lines, and will be cut into the proper shape by the machine. My only difficulty is as to the delivery of the finished photo. It has been suggested that an envelope should be supplied from the box, upon which could be written the name and address of the purchaser, who, having paid another penny for the stamp, would receive the photo in the course of a few days. I hope, however, to find a simpler way out of the difficulty."

"But could it be made to pay?"

"My dear sir, the cost of producing a photo—of the paper and chemicals used—is almost nil. Apart from the capital invested, the profits of a photographer are simply enormous. I don't say that the penny photo will be in first-class style. Fashionable photographers will still sell their dozen cartes de visite for a guinea. But if boxes are put at railway stations, in public houses, on the piers at the seaside, many people will be content with the penny photo who would otherwise have gone to a cheap studio."

SELLING BY TENS OF THOUSANDS.

"Now, what has been done with the photos in the machines up to the present?"

"Well, I started the photo business as part of my general scheme last May. In May 752 photos were sold; in June, 14,571; in July, 37,309; in August, 58,302; in September, 64,337; in October, 92,799. We have now about 200 photo boxes; we intend to have 5,000. At present they have been placed only in railway stations and theatres. We have photo boxes as far as Bournemouth on the South Western and Dover on the South Eastern, and here is an agreement which we entered into yesterday with the Brighton and South Coast Company. As to theatres, the idea is being largely taken up by touring companies. This afternoon, for instance, I am to go to Ealing, where the whole of the 'Yeomen of the Guard' company are to be photographed in their costumes. Of course, placed at each theatre they visit, the boxes are not only a source of profit to companies on tour, but also a means of advertisement."

PHOTOS AND POPULARITY.

Mr. Russell then gave me some information respecting the comparative popularity of public characters as judged by the sale of their photos. With Gladstone, it was a case of Eclipse first and the rest nowhere. Indeed, for the photos of politicians generally there is a very small demand. A penny photo of Lord Salisbury has not yet been brought out, and of Mr. Chamberlain one was only produced when the Endicott marriage gave the right hon. gentleman some social prominence. Mr. Bradlaugh's photos sell well, but even he is comparatively low down in the list. After the G.O.M. all the places of honour are taken by actors and actresses, who form indeed a good majority of the celebrities whose portraits have been popularized by the automatic box. Ellen Terry is second to the Liberal leader, then Irving. Charles Wyndham and Mary Moore are fourth and fifth, being followed in succession by Arthur Roberts, Wilson Barrett, and Minnie Terry.

HOW THE PHOTOS ARE PRODUCED.

"What is your *modus operandi* in getting out a new photo?"

"Generally it is reproduced from portraits taken by the West-end photographers. Our business has played the deuce with the photographers with their high-priced copies. But if the consent of the 'subject' has been obtained they can't help themselves. Some of them recognize that the penny photos bearing their name may be a good advertisement, and induce people to be 'taken' at their studios. Sometimes, however, special sittings are arranged, and we are overwhelmed with applications for this purpose from people of questionable celebrity. The reproduction of the photos has hitherto been done by English firms, mostly by the Woodburytype process. Now, however, I can get them done in Germany by the colour-type process for one third the cost. Each edition consists of 10,000 copies, and as these are exhausted a different photo of the celebrity is prepared. We shall shortly issue at 2*d.* each a series of copies in cabinet size of pictures by the old masters, these being beautifully reproduced in Berlin."

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

The latest version of the German libel on Sir Robert Morier is that letters were found in Dr. Geffcken's possession from our Ambassador at St. Petersburg which strongly advised the publication of the Emperor's Diary in order to injure Prince Bismarck. This story may be as baseless as was Marshal Bazaine's tittle tattle. We know absolutely nothing about it. But if there have been any letters from Sir Robert Morier found in possession of Dr. Geffcken—which is possible enough, for Dr. Geffcken was a friend of the late Emperor and a scholar of European repute—we must see them before accepting the Reptile version of their contents. That Sir Robert Morier may have been consulted about the publication of the Diary is possible. That he would in such a case recommend that course is probable, but that he would base his recommendation on the ground that such a publication would damage Prince Bismarck is simply incredible.

The report to which we referred some days since as to the entente that seems to be in course of establishment between Austria and Russia has been confirmed, although not officially. When the Austrian War Minister can talk about "the exceedingly peaceful prospect for the immediate future," and even the Hungarian Minister of National Defence can say that "a much quieter current prevails at the present moment," it is evident that the Peace Keeper of Europe has at last succeeded in making his influence felt even in Vienna and in Pesth. The gain to the tranquillity of the Continent involved in the transfer of the dominating influence in Europe from Prince Bismarck to the Tzar is simply incalculable.

Mr. Gladstone's views about the Roman question the *Times* discusses to-day in a lengthy leading article, without arriving any nearer at a solution of the mystery. The editor of the *Weekly Register* makes a descent upon the arena with the result of bewildering us still more. We print the latest evidence in another column. According to this testimony Mr. Gladstone is completely in accord with Count Jacini as to his proposal, which seems to be one for "the international neutralization of the Holy See," whatever that may mean. Our correspondent thinks that this discovery may break the heart of one of the leader-writers of the *Daily News*. He little knows the toughness and elasticity of the organs to which he so flippantly alludes.

The Lyceum "Macbeth" meets with scant justice at the hands of the illustrated weeklies. Mr. Partridge's sketches in the *Illustrated London News* are good, but meagre. He should have been allowed a double page for a theme so full of pictorial suggestion. Mr. Nash in the *Graphic* fills a double page with drawings which are neither truthful nor vigorous. Miss Terry's Lady Macbeth becomes a podgy cookmaid, and Mr. Irving, in the death-scene, is like Mr. Edmund Gosse going to a fancy ball in the character of Thaddeus of Warsaw. Even Mr. Bryan's caricatures in the *Sporting and Dramatic* are not so happily inspired as usual, though Sir Arthur Sullivan "skirling" on the pipes is distinctly funny.

The suggestion that Mr. Richard Mansfield should attempt the part of his namesake Richard Plantagenet was first made in these columns. Mr. Mansfield has taken the hint, and will appear as King Richard III. so soon as his larynx and Sir Morell Mackenzie will suffer him to return to the stage. Mr. Clement Scott, however, hints that it is Colley Cibber's "Richard III.," not Shakespeare's, that Mr. Mansfield intends to revive. If this is not a slip on Mr. Scott's part, it is an egregious blunder on Mr. Mansfield's. Mr. Irving has done what Macready tried in vain to do—he has killed the ranting Richard of Cibber. Mr. Mansfield's advertisement promises "Shakespeare's Richard III.," and we doubt not that he will be as good as his word. A revival of Cibber would be a melancholy anachronism.

Mdme. Novikoff sends to the *Times* a letter about Russian and Siberian exiles, in reply to the protest of the Howard Association, which may be useful as contributing to a practical discussion of the defects of the prison system of an empire which stretches across the north of two continents. Why Mdme. Novikoff should protest at all against people repeating such elementary and admitted truths as that two and two make four, that three and three make six, or that the condition of many Russian prisons is an outrage upon humanity, we do not understand. In the pressure of other claims upon the Russian Treasury, M. Galkin Vratsky and Mdme. Novikoff and all humane Russians ought rather to rejoice if, in the columns of a press which is not dependent for leave to exist on the good pleasure of highly placed officials, the urgency of the need for replacing the overcrowded prisons is insisted upon again and again. Mr. George Kennan may have blundered about Tomsk University, but he has conferred a great benefit upon Russia by throwing into literary shape the evidence of Russian officials and Russian prisoners which he collected in Siberia as to the actual condition of Russian prisons.

What is a Bible? Some persons will think that the question should be put to Professor Max Müller; others, that the right authority to decide it would be a synod of Bishops, or the Pope's own Œcumenical Vatican Council, or a commission of learned critics. The Canadian Customs officers were lately confronted most unexpectedly by the difficult question, and referred the decision to the Government, instead of applying to ecclesiastical or theological authorities. The duty upon a Bible admitted into Canada is 5 per cent., while that upon all ordinary books is 15 per cent. A huge chest of "Bibles" arrived in Quebec, and the customary duty was offered by the importer; but it was found upon examination that they were one and all Mormon "Bibles." The officers refused to acknowledge the canonicity, so far as concerned the Customs duty, of the Scriptures of polygamy. The Mormons contended that their sacred book was a "Bible" in the sense of the law. The Canadian Government, however, has confirmed the demand of the duty of 15 per cent. upon every copy of this precious volume, and so decreed it to be no Bible.

The birthday of Peter Laing, the Elgin centenarian, whose portrait appeared in a recent issue, has just been celebrated in his native town. The event does not appear to have greatly disconcerted the old man, who went about his daily avocation in his usual way. Since Peter's 100th birthday, it has been the habit of some of his friends and neighbours to entertain him in one of the hotels of the town. At the festive gathering this year the treasurer of the town, who is also an officer of the Inland Revenue, presided, and in proposing the centenarian's health, stated that up to the year 1826 Peter had been a ploughman, a smuggler, and a small farmer, and since the above year he had been a carter in Elgin. He was not sure if it was quite proper to expose one of the most notorious smugglers that ever lived, but he believed that Peter had conscientiously done his duty to the Revenue by the amount of liquor he had been credited with consuming. The centenarian, in reply, said the chairman had given him a better recommendation than he "expeckit." "I houp ye will 'a live," he said, "as lang' as I hae deen; for here am I stan'in', an' I niver hed a fardin's worth of sauts or ony doctor's droggs in my inside. I've hed as guid health as ony man, but am growin' little bookit" (less in bulk) "noo." Peter was about sixty before he took to himself a wife, and since her death, many years ago, he has lived entirely alone. As remarked in the article on Friday, almost his only food is oatmeal and water, the sustaining power of which is thus forcibly demonstrated in the case of this wonderful old man.

There is rather a happy phrase in the *Standard's* article this morning on the Prince of Wales's speeches. The Prince, it says, is "social Aide-de-Camp to the nation." This is perfectly true; and as, although the Prince might have been more, he might also have been less, the fact is much to his credit. The speeches collected in this volume are, with the exception of those devoted to hobbies of his own, just such as might be expected from a social aide-de-camp. They are short, and pleasant, and sensible. To claim anything more for them is, as the *Standard* says, highly absurd. As for the *Times*, which goes into raptures over them as models of eloquence and monuments of philosophical insight, which declares them to have adorned all they touched and to have summed up all the best that has been known and thought during the past twenty-five years: by no one will such stuff be more despised than by the Prince himself, whose native shrewdness enables him to take fulsome flattery at precisely its proper worth.

It is really quite pitiful to see how the *Deutsche Rundschau* has been cowed after its gallant attempt at doing justice to the memory of Emperor Frederick. The Political Review with which its numbers are generally concluded used to be worth reading, when they contained an impartial and truly patriotic view of European affairs. At present, however, all this has been changed, and if the sound of the hissing in the article was not so very mild, one would be led to believe that the *Rundschau*, from being a watch dog of civilization, had turned into one of the famous "reptiles." It is Bismarck—Bismarck the great and the good—all through. For instance, in referring to Prince Bismarck's reply to his "colleagues" at the Giessen University after the title of D.D. had been offered to him, the *Rundschau* says, "The concluding words of the Chancellor's reply come to us as the light of the setting sun on a beautiful autumn day," &c., &c. But for poor Dr. Geffcken, who has been all but done to death at the Moabit prison in consequence of having supplied the *Rundschau* with the famous Diary, not a word has ever been said in the wide columns of Dr. Rodenberg's magazine.

COUNTY COUNCIL NOTES.

ONE of the most interesting candidatures for the London County Council is that of Mr. Walter Wren in Bethnal-green. Some men are candidates by their own choice: others are candidates by the choice of the electors. Mr. Wren belongs to the latter class. A deputation from Bethnal-green asked him to stand. He was ill at the time, and had to answer that he could not endanger his recovery by the fatigue of an election. But if he could not stand, would he sit? they asked. That is to say, if they elected him, without his attending meetings, &c., would he represent them? Mr. Wren of course replied that he would; and his supporters are working hard to run him in. Both he and they richly deserve to succeed: he, because he is a man of character and ability; and they, because they had the sense to look out for a good man.

* * * * *

Among all the candidates' addresses, none is more elaborate and to the point than that issued by Mr. Dobbs to the electors of South Paddington. In one way and another, Mr. Dobbs may be said by his successful crusade against the water companies to have saved the London ratepayers—present and future—close upon five millions sterling. The man who has done this has naturally plenty to say about the functions of the new Council. But he is not going to rest on his oars. The gas companies want watching quite as much as the water companies; and the following passage in Mr. Dobbs's address seems to show that he is up to all their tricks:—

> There are two parts in a meter, one part the drum which revolves, and which is of a certain capacity, such that when it has revolved so many times so many cubic feet of gas will have passed through the meter; and the other part, the index and clockwork which mark the number of revolutions. Now, the stamp only guarantees that the drum is of the exact capacity it ought to have in order to pass a given number of cubic feet of gas in a given number of revolutions, but it tells you and guarantees you nothing as to the equally important fact—that is, whether the fingers on the index register the exact number of revolutions which have actually occurred. The revolutions may have been 560 and the index may mark 600. Very probably the index marks the correct number, but the testing and stamp is no guarantee that it does so. You will perhaps agree with me that this should be amended.

* * * * *

Certainly we agree with Dobbs; and so we imagine does every gas consumer in Paddington. And if such things are to be amended by the Council Mr. Dobbs ought to be there to do it. But he is running on non-political lines, and is being opposed by two political candidates whose only recommendations are the somewhat doubtful ones that they are vestrymen and that they are Tories. We really do not know what the opinions of Mr. Dobbs on Imperial politics are, but the Paddington Tories will be very foolish if they do not give at least one of their votes to the David who wounded one of the great twin Monopoly Goliaths.

* * * * *

One constituency in which the non-political line has been turned to excellent advantage is South St. Pancras. There Mr. John Hutton—who is a Liberal in every sense of the word ("liberal" as well as "a Liberal")—is running in harness with Colonel Edis, the well-known architect and volunteer, whose misfortune it is to be in general politics a Tory. Mr. Hutton, by the way, is probably the most-consulted author but one in the country, being the editor of the "A. B. C." Time Tables. As both he and Colonel Edis are residents in the district their election ought to be certain.

* * * * *

But it is very difficult to say what will happen in any of the London divisions; except in very few cases, candidates and canvassers everywhere complain of great apathy; and the very persons who ought to take most interest in the elections, namely, the largest ratepayers, seem to take least. It will really be an inducement to the Council to run up the rates, just in order to arouse the ratepayers.

* * * * *

The one candidate on whom everybody seems agreed is "Honest Harris" in the Strand. His platform the other night held a Parnellite M.P. as well as a Tory Under-Secretary, and even the *Star* includes him in its list of the Radical select. This is quite right; for though Augustus Druriolanus is a Tory (as emperors have a way of being), he is sound on all the weightier matter of County Council law.

* * * * *

As nobody quite knows what the Council may or may not do, the candidature for a seat upon it affords a splendid field for airing crotchets. One of the most interesting among these has been put out by Mr. Fletcher at Hampstead. Referring in a speech the other evening to a recent visit to Germany, he said:—

> One thing that struck him there was the excellent dog regulations. Once a year owners had to take their dogs before the authorities and get a clean bill of health. If they could not pass the examination the dogs were destroyed; if they did pass they were handed back to their owners. Each dog had a number given to it, and, if it were lost, could easily be returned to its owner.

In these Socialistic days, we quite expect to hear soon of a proposal that the Council should establish a "Free Municipal Dogs' Home." And it really might do worse.

* * * * *

After the dogs, the fogs; and Mr. Fletcher went on to "face the great difficulty of the prevalency of fogs." He said:—

> It might be objected that no County Council could cure fogs. Of course, they would never get rid of the white fog consequent on the fact that London was originally built in a swamp. But a good County Council could do a great deal by enforcing regulations with regard to nuisances caused by smoke.

Certainly it could; and we sincerely hope it will. It has caused so much fog over its election that its first duty should be to dispel some.

PROFESSOR HUXLEY AND THE SPIRITUALISTS.

We have been favoured with the following correspondence for publication:—

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—I have not the good fortune to be personally acquainted with Mr. E. L. Garbett; but the letters with which he has favoured me afford such an instructive illustration of the mental attitude of "Spiritualists" that (having as you will observe obtained Mr. Garbett's permission) I ask you to publish them. Mr. Garbett's suggestion that Mr. Conway has been 'duped by two women personating" the Foxes is almost as delicious as that of the ingenuous journalists who suggest that Sir Robert Morier fabricated Bazaine's letter.—I am, your obedient servant,

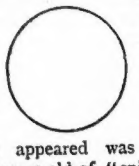
T. H. HUXLEY.

I

Professor Huxley. 3, Myddelton-square, E.C., Jan. 3, 1889.

Dear Sir,—About the date that you say Mr. Conway relates "the Fox women" to have confessed their forty years' hoax the *Pall Mall Gazette* reported the chief of them, Mrs. Jencken, to have been one of a party who have rented Carlyle's house at Chelsea, and described a séance at which he was believed to be evoked. How do you know that the pair who confessed were real "Fox women?" May not Mr. Conway really have been duped by two women personating them? Supposing they really confessed their rapping, and moreover that this and your ability to rap proved all the rapping both with them and with all other media to be trickery, I cannot see how that would affect spiritualist belief. Granting that you can rap, can you also sit down and forge the signature of my late aunt * * * (whose two names I keep in my head), which signature I had seen oftener than any other for twenty years, so that, if produced in court, I should unhesitatingly swear it was my aunt's? This is what Mrs. Jencken did, or rather her left hand did it, by writing Hebrew way, from right to left, on transparent tracing paper, which, turned over, presents on the back the forgery. The same evening her same hand was made to write similarly several other names, and short messages, in very various hands and two or three languages, all of which the sitters, or some of those present, recognized, and one lady was moved to tears by one. Another sentence, but only one, when we went to turn it ever, was legible on the front, reading from left to right though written from right to left, the pencil having begun at the last letter, and ended at the first!

Again, if you can rap, can you also cause four kinds of raps, clicks, and thumps to be heard simultaneously from seemingly the plaster walls, doors and furniture, as happened that evening in a small parlour Mrs. Jencken inhabited, of a small house, whose number I could tell you, of a row near Addison-road station? Or again, if doing all I have mentioned, including the forgery, can you also rise and float in the air, as our friend Dr. Crookes saw various persons do, besides Home, the quack, whom Lord Crawford and many others did repeatedly? Can you cause even small objects, as a pair of scissors, or pencil, or only a key, to hover a few seconds, as I have seen myself? Can you cause even the cover of a book to open obstinately by an invisible force against my efforts to shut it, so that I and the invisible had a pushing match? Or can you, in a nearly dark room, cause the table to send up occasionally a luminous ball, about a foot, as if by projected and falling again rising expanding from a gravitation, but while and while falling, shrinking mere point, to this size, I never interviewed but again to nothing? Like you, the only one with whom three media, but the last and the very Kate Fox (Mrs. any intelligent foreign agent appeared was Jencken), discoverer at nine years old of "spiritualism." She is also the only one to whom I paid a farthing, and the only one with whom I heard raps. There were various kinds of them at once, as I said; but those answering questions were all exactly alike. Every such rap was two distinct clicks, the second rather the stronger, but their interval, I believe, hardly a tenth of a second—certainly not a sixth of a second. I have tried in vain to imitate this double click. No extempore contrivance can I make to do it—the two so close together, yet so distinct, and partaking of a metallic and wooden sound.



All the other effects I have described were with a youth named Ebenezer Bullock, who went to Australia, but whose parents are, I believe, still here. They are extremely vulgar, illiterate people, but claimed to be "mediums" for the same sort of manifestations, which they called "physicals."

The third medium I only saw once. He was a young man named Howell, a "trance medium." In the state of trance or hypnotism, he seemed to be taken possession of by four successive spirits, who made his body address us in four characters, using widely different dialects—one the dialect of negroes in Carolina, this one describing herself as a cotton plantation slave. Another, in Lancashire dialect, said he had been killed by a colliery explosion near Wigan, and his name was Mattheson. But what I was never told to expect: while the room was darkened for Howell to go into the trance, the moment he did so there shot up from the top of his head a group of five or six sparks as bright as fire flies, shooting up two or three feet in the manner of rockets. Years afterwards I met with an engraving of Peter of Alcantara, a Spanish thaumaturgic saint of three centuries ago, kneeling before a crucifix, while a multitude of these exact sparks that I had seen are spouting like a fountain from his head towards the crucifix. Perhaps you may not be aware that the "*Acta Sanctorum*" has engravings (from contemporary paintings) showing St. Theresa and a monk who visited her, both raised up in their chairs, exactly as Mr. Crookes describes media to have been lately, and as happened to numerous mediæval saints—Philip of Neri being one of the latest.

What I think you should specially remember is that, whatever you may make people believe as to these things, their naturalness or impossibility, you cannot prevent their happening. They will happen, whatever you teach about them. They have to be reckoned with.—Believe me, Sir, yours very respectfully,

E. L. GARBETT.

II.

4, Marlborough-place, N.W., January 9, 1889.

Dear Sir,—A comparison of the end of your letter with the end of mine in the *Pall Mall Gazette* will I think convince you, as it does me, that any discussion of the subject between us is not likely to be profitable.—I am, yours very truly,

T. H. HUXLEY.

P.S.—Unless you object, I shall hold myself free to use your letter as a public communication.

III.

3, Myddelton-square, E.C., 10th January, 1889.

Dear Sir,—If you add the fact or two that follows about my experiment with Mrs. Jencken, I have no objection to any use you may make of the others about her or the youths Bullock and Howell. You say of your first experiment, "The name of the dead friend of whom I was thinking was spelt out in no "time." I may say nearly the same, but with this important difference. I was too cautious to point to the alphabet myself. I requested another sitter to do that—a stranger till that hour—and I (who alone knew the name) averted my face. I forget whether the pointer was the medium herself, or another lady, but it does not matter. It was no one who had seen or heard the name, which was Lacy. A very common Christian name before it might be guessed perhaps. Then came a rap at L, another at A, a third at C, a fourth at E; whereon a sitter exclaimed, "It must be Lacey." This was the sound I wanted, but not the spelling. Yet you see it came sooner than I had expected. To make the fourth letter the Y that I expected would have taken more time. "Expectant attention" (which of course I was guilty of) could not have brought me the name of the sound so soon. I was looking for the spelling, not the sound. Do not quote the other facts, without these.

I forget whether I remarked to you that Mr. Conway's date on which the two "Fox women" confessed was very near that on which the *Pall Mall Gazette* reported that Mrs. Jencken was here, one of a party who had taken Carlyle House, for experiments in which they held him to have been evoked. Now, of course, it is conceivable that she, the eldest sister, having discovered rap-mediumship in 1848 at nine years old, may have led her younger sisters to imitate it, in some such way as yours, without being mediums. In any case, a confession of all three being quacks would be just as much a "collapse of Spiritualism" as the settling that the observers were wrong who thought Neptune had a ring, or Venus a satellite, was a "collapse of Copernican astronomy," and proof that we ought to revive the Ptolemaic.

The end of your letter fears the observing such facts as Mr. Crookes has, or as Mr. A. R. Wallace does, will revive or lead to superstition. Now, on the contrary, a superstition, namely, Popery, is just what your attitude that you have exhausted the knowledge of what is possible or impossible must lead to, as Mr. Wallace has pointed out.

There was a Brunswick Prince, not quite an ancestor of the Queen, but an uncle, I believe, to George I., whose perversion to Romanism you may read of in the life of St. Joseph of Cupertino. It was entirely brought about by the said Friar Joseph's "miracles," as they were called—that is, merely such facts as Mr. Crookes has seen. Because this Prince held your views of the possible, he was miracled into Popery; whereas, if he had held mine, Wallace's, and Crookes's, he would have remained Protestant. Now, please to add that remark, and make what you can of it.—Yours, very truly,

E. L. GARBETT.

THE NEW DRILL OF THE ARMY.

AN INTERVIEW WITH A DRILL INSTRUCTOR.

THE importance of the above is evidenced in the fact that in a recent general order his Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief announced that he "had received the Queen's commands to require of officers a scrupulous adherence to the system of drill and manœuvre now promulgated;" and he goes on to say that "the careful training of the soldier in ordinary times, by those whose duty it will be to direct his fire and lead him in action, has become of paramount importance." Most people, we fancy, will be inclined to agree in the soundness of the theory above enunciated; and we therefore instructed a representative to endeavour to obtain some practical information on the subject by direct application to an experienced drill instructor, and this is his report. The drill instructor who is responsible for the following opinions had just come off parade, and I lost no time (says our representative) in beating about the bush.

"About the new drill, you want to know, do you? Well, to tell you the truth, we hardly know ourselves! There is 'the book' for our guidance, of course; but the instructions laid down are far from explicit, and will require a considerable amount of revision."

"As to details, you mean, of course; but what I want to gather is not so much minor technicalities as a general idea."—"Quite so. Well, the general idea, as you call it, appears to me to be to cast more responsibility upon the non-commissioned officers (and to a certain extent upon the private soldiers), to the relief of the officers."

"Purely drill movements have, I suppose, always been more or less irksome to officers?"—"Undoubtedly they have, and nine times out of ten the responsibility of seeing them properly carried out has rested upon the non-coms., while the officers have been supposed to do it; but by the new arrangement the former will be held to be actually as well as theoretically responsible; and Tommy Atkins will also be called upon to think and act for himself to a greater extent than has ever before been deemed possible."

"And do you think they (the privates) will be equal to the occasion?"—"In course of time they will: of course a radical change like that now being carried on cannot be brought about in the course of a few months. Tommy Atkins has so long been regarded as a mere fighting machine, moving when told to, and never by any chance being allowed to think or act for himself, that it will take a long time to eradicate the feeling."

"But surely you do not mean to imply that in future warfare each man is to think and act for himself?"—"By no means; but by a simplification of tactics, and the removal of a number of altogether unnecessary manœuvres, the private soldier of the future will become imbued with a knowledge of his own individual importance; he will no longer be a dummy, to be advanced or retired as occasion may require; but he will take an intelligent interest in what he is ordered to do, because he will, by a course of training, be in a position to understand what it is all about."

"And a very admirable thing too, I should imagine. But, apart from the simplification of drill movements, notice that special stress is laid on the way in which officers are to direct and control the fire of their men: 'Fire Discipline' is your military term, I think?"—"Ah, now you come to a different matter altogether. A simple system of drill movements, easily comprehended by the men, is well enough in its way, but all the drill in the world won't teach men to shoot well."

"And what would you suggest, then?"—"Simply this: that considerably more time and attention should be paid to musketry practice; the necessary drill movements can be thoroughly taught in the course of a few weeks, and occasional parades, not necessarily daily, are ample to ensure keeping the men up to a high standard of efficiency; but with shooting it is quite a different matter. The men don't get nearly enough practice."

"And yet the average standard of efficiency in this respect is very much higher than it used to be?"—"Yes, if you take one regiment with another; but it is the non-commissioned officers who as a rule make the largest individual scores, and thus serve to swell the aggregate. Tommy Atkins as a rule is not by any means a first-class rifle shot."

"And how do you account for it?"—"Simply in this way: the non-coms. have the opportunity afforded them of practising shooting more or less all the year round; but the privates merely go through their annual course of musketry, and they do not get another chance (unless they are selected for regimental or other shooting competitions) until the time for the annual course comes round again."

"I see; too much drill and too little shooting?"—"That's just it; an undrilled soldier is, practically speaking, worse than no soldier at all; but a highly drilled soldier who is—to put it mildly—only an indifferent shot, is not so very much better."

"And so you don't think the much-talked-of new drill is altogether a success?"—"I don't say that; far from it. In fact, so far as it goes, it is excellent, but it does not go far enough. What we want is greater facilities for musketry practice."

"And until you get that?"—"Well, until we do, the army won't be what it ought to be, that's all."

A BATCH OF MINOR POETS.*

MISS ATHERSTONE has desired to pay a last tribute to her father's memory. So she publishes three of his failures—plays that for sixty or seventy years have lain covered in the dust of comfortable oblivion. These she draws forth, and transforms "their yellow pages and faded ink" into a portly volume that, in her opinion, should fill a place in any library. So far as English literature is concerned, it will not be made richer by such heavy dramas. They are not of the sort that endure. We are told that they were offered repeatedly to managers of London playhouses in the days when Kean and Kemble and Macready stood at the summit of their fame. These actors even expressed their willingness to take leading parts in them; but that was not enough to secure their acceptance. Macready's marginal note to one scene may serve as the best comment upon them all. "I doubt its effect in representation." He was quite right. They are not plays that will act, nor is there any sign that they were framed and composed with a view to stage effect. If, however, they were full of genuine poetry, that would not matter so much. But, as literature, they do not touch a very high level. They are pitched in the grand key; yet, though there is a perpetual attempt to soar, it is an attempt that rarely or never succeeds. For all their high words and sounding phrases, the people in "Pelopidas" and "Philip" never move or thrill us; they never work an inward stir to our mind. We might choose, as an example of heights and declensions in the author's style, this passage from "Philip," where Demetrius and Janira stand looking eastward, at sunrise:—

JAN.— Beautiful!
Most beautiful! Oh! have I lived till now
And ne'er seen this?
DEM.—How men will haste and crowd
To see a monarch in his tawdry state!
Yet the great King of light goes daily up
To his resplendent throne; and scarce an eye
Follows his rising.
JAN.—Demetrius—
Where is the glorious stretch of prospect round
You talked of? All below us is dense mist—
Naught visible but this huge mountain's top
And one or two below us, that scarce lift
Their *bald heads* through the fog, &c., &c.

When Mr. Atherstone published his epic poem, "The Fall of Nineveh," the *Edinburgh Review* proclaimed him to be "copious, melodious, and emphatic; his style, gorgeous and flowing." And another leading review predicted that "The Fall of Nineveh" would be found "in every library, side by side with the 'Iliad' and 'Paradise Lost.'" Has this prophecy come true?

Morris and Shelley would seem to have had a large share in aiding Mr. Kane to compose his filmily-conceived poem. Perhaps it would be juster to say that he is evidently impressed by their style, and has wished to be as fluent, as harmonious, as dreamy, as they. Seven cantos of sweet rhythm, however, prove all too long for our patience, especially as the story unfolded to us is wanting in human interest. "The Islanders" cannot be pronounced a great poem, but it is a graceful legend narrated in a smooth, musical way. Here are some lines that might have been penned by the author of "The Earthly Paradise:"—

In a fair golden garment did she shine
Among the azure hosts, and in her face
The stars that were her eyes did grow divine
With the deep passion of her heart; nor trace
Of terror altered her but only grace
Of woe unutterable.

There is nothing smooth or musical, however, in Mr. J. W. Wood's "Tales and Sketches in Prose and Verse," while there is a great deal that is absolutely ridiculous. At one moment we thought that we had opened a book of nonsense. There is a cutting lyric on one page which says nothing very friendly for lawyers. It is called "Wolf":—

The veriest wolf's a
Rogue's lawyer
For he'll steal your eye-teeth
With his brief
If he can.

Though the remark be old, the metre and the rhyme are at least quite new. Cathos might have thought this gem "poussé dans le dernier galand;" it certainly ranks with "ces sortes de choses qui ne se peuvent payer." The author can throw off a lyric upon any subject—upon silence, or spoons, or house sparrows. Mr. Wood says that he has "felt it his duty to yield to pressure from without" and "place his later thoughts before the public." We doubt whether "the public" will be grateful for such an act of attention.

Mr. Coleridge will hardly wish his slender, dainty little set of verses to be seriously criticised. For neither he nor we would rate it as a piece of work into which he has put all his power. It cannot be called representative; but friends who admired the poems in manuscript will like to have them in this form. They are reverently dedicated "to the immortal memory of the author of 'Christabel.'" "Midnight Sapphics," "An Invitation," and "The Old Casement Window" are worth reading; and this "Epitaph," which stands on the last page, is worth quoting:—

Too beautiful for our dull praise,
A child of heaven's birth
She whom we love.
But lest we should lose Paradise,
By finding it on Earth,
She went above.

There are some fairly successful verses to be found here and there in "A Publisher's Playground." Most of them, however, are desperately commonplace. But after a good deal of pretty trifling, we have the *mot pour rire* at the end; and that compensates us for much.

IRATE AUTHOR.	PATIENT PUBLISHER.
"Whene'er I take my works abroad The publisher to see I inly feel a deep desire To punch the head of he."	"Whene'er he takes his works abroad And brings them me to buy, I inly say, but rarely say You'll be the death of I."

Such furious fun as this may possibly make many sides ache in Paternoster-row.

Denouncers of the Salvationists, who need a new phrase for them, might borrow largely from this "Poet who became a Christian." For he is unkind enough to call them—

Shouters for God and Hallelujah souls,
'Siegers of Heaven with violence of noise,
Rude handlers of the Word and vile misusers
Of Oriental trope and metaphor.
More of the bellows than the fire, rockets
Not stars, a flare of dry sticks or of straw.
Mere friction of hot souls
Rubbing against each Other; epidemics
That feed upon their own conceits; hubbub
Of nerves excited; pleased with their own noise.

The writer of these "confessions" is also much pleased with his own noise; but, save for this flash of invective, his book is about as interesting as a pyramid.

* 1. "The Dramatic Works of Edwin Atherstone." Edited by his daughter, Mary E. Atherstone. (Elliot Stock.)
2. "The Islanders: a Poem in Seven Cantos." By Edward Kane. (Elliot Stock.)
3. "Tales and Sketches in Prose and Verse." By J. W. Wood, F.S.A. (Elliot Stock.)
4. "Fibulæ." By the Hon. Stephen Coleridge. (Kegan Paul, Trench, and Co.)
5. "A Publisher's Playground." (Kegan Paul, Trench, and Co.)
6. "Confessions of a Poet; showing how he became a Christian." (R. Hill and Co., Bedford.)

TO-DAY'S NEW BOOKS.

(Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do no preclude further review, should such seem to be necessary.)

EDUCATIONAL.

HIME, MAURICE C., M.A. "Irish Schools." (Simpkin Marshall.)
[Dr. Hime contends that inasmuch as nearly all successful Irishmen have been educated exclusively at Irish schools, therefore Irish schools are superior to English ones. The reasons for this superiority are set out in a second part. Pp. 84, cloth. Price 1s.]

SIDGWICK, A., M.A. "On Stimulus." (Cambridge: At the University Press.)
[A new edition of a lecture delivered to a syndicate of teachers, six years ago, in which stimulus, or the agent which stirs pupils to attentiveness and interest in their work, is viewed from the purely practical side by a teacher of many years' standing. Pp. 41, cloth.]

FICTION.

ANON. "The Grey Lady of Hardcastle." (Burns and Oates.)
[A story in one volume, "edited by a friend of the family," with a representation of the tomb of Chateaubriand by way of frontispiece. Pp. 254. N.P.]

LEVY, AMY. "Reuben Sachs: a Sketch." (Macmillan.)
[A story in one vol. Pp. 267, cloth, price 6s.]

MANN, MARY E. "A Lost Estate." (Bentley.)
[A novel in three volumes.]

MISCELLANEA.

REIN, Professor J. J. "The Industries of Japan." (Hodder and Stoughton.)
[An elaborate treatise upon the agriculture and forestry, the mining, the art industry, and the trade and commerce of Japan; founded upon travels and researches undertaken at the cost of the Prussian Government. Pp. 570, cloth, illustrations, maps, and appended statistical tables. Price 30s.]

ST. HILL, KATHARINE. "Grammar of Palmistry." (George Redway.)
[In our issue of the 10th, Miss St. Hill's "clever little handbook on palmistry" was said to be published by Mr. Ridgway. It should have been Mr. Redway. This and similar works are published by Mr. Redway, whose address is 15, York-street, Covent-garden.]

NOTICES.

Announcements of BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, *and* DEATHS *are inserted for* 5*s. each. The* PALL MALL GAZETTE *is sent post free for any number of days to any address in the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and all countries in the Postal Union, at the rate of ninepence per week, or* 9*s. 6d. per quarter. The* PALL MALL BUDGET, *also post free, costs for the United Kingdom* 4*s. 11d. per quarter; for all countries in the Postal Union* 5*s. 5d. per quarter; for India and China* 6*s. per quarter. Apply to the Manager,* PALL MALL GAZETTE, 2, NORTHUMBERLAND-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.—CHILDREN HALF-PRICE to MORNING and EVENING PERFORMANCES to all parts of the House (except Gallery) on payment at the doors, or seats can be secured in advance at the Box-office and all Libraries.—HENGLER'S CIRCUS, THEATRE ROYAL COVENT GARDEN.

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UNCLES AND AUNTS.—MATINEE TO-DAY (Saturday), at 3 o'clock. COMEDY THEATRE.

CRYSTAL PALACE PANTOMIME.—CINDERELLA. Written by HORACE LENNARD, Produced under direction of OSCAR BARRETT. DAILY at 3, and THURSDAY, and SATURDAY EVENINGS at 7.30. Seats from 1*s.* to 5*s.*

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NIAGARA IN LONDON. COLOSSAL PICTURE of the GREAT FALLS, original effects, by PHILIPPOTEAUX. Pleasant Lounge, Music, American Sweetmeat Store. Electric Light. Refreshments by Beguinot. Admission 1*s.* No fees. 10 to 10.—YORK STREET, WESTMINSTER, St. James's Park Station.

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Saturday, Sunday, and Monday.

SATURDAY.

Royal Botanical Society, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, Election of Fellows, 3.45.
Socialist Co-operative Federation (Limited), Socialist League, 13, Farringdon-street, 8.
South London School of Elocution and Dramatic Art—Cinderella.
Kildare Bicycle and Tricycle Club Dance at Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
St. James's Hall—Popular Concerts, 3.
Metropolitan Asylums Board—Spring-gardens, 12.
St. Nicholas Cole Abbey Cinderella Dance—Anderton's Hotel, 6.
City College Science Society, Moorfields—Conversazione, 8.
"The History of Mediæval Florence," by Oscar Browning, Toynbee Hall, 8
"Westminster Abbey," by the Dean of Westminster, Toynbee Hall, 4.30.
Working's Men's Club, Great Ormond-street—Evening Concert and Conversazione, 7.30 to 11.30.
County Council Meetings—West Southwark: Messrs. Haggis and Rhodes (open air), Flat Iron-square, Southwark Bridge-road, 3. North-east Bethnal-green: Messrs. Wren and Torr, St. Ann's Schools, Pritchards-road, 8.30. Dulwich and Penge: Lord Sandhurst and Dr. Gutteridge, Penge Vestry Hall, Anerley-road, 8.
Football.—At Acton, Rosslyn Park *v.* Bartholomew's Hospital; at Balham, Westminster *v.* St, Andrews; at Brondesbury, London Scottish *v.* Blackheath; at Castle Hill, St. George's Hospital *v.* Old Cheltonians; at Catford, Old Cranleighans *v.* West End; at Catford Bridge, Catford Bridge *v.* Veterinary College; at Chiswick, Harlequins *v.* Queens; at Chiswick, Chiswick Park *v.* Old Foresters; at Dulwich, Lennox *v.* Gravesend; at Finsbury, H.A.C. *v.* Oakfield; at Kennington Oval, London *v.* Oxford and Cambridge; at Leyton, Essex *v.* Norfolk; at Putney, Wasps *v.* St. Bartholomew's Hospital; at Putney, Prairie Rangers *v.* Old St. Mark's; at Richmond, Richmond *v.* Old Leysians; at Surbiton, Marlborough Nomads *v.* Clapham Rovers; at Surbiton, Lancing Old Boys *v.* Crusaders; at Sydenham, Sydenham *v.* Eaton Rovers; at Upper Tooting, Casuals *v.* Old Harrovians; at Wandsworth, Clapham Rovers *v.* Hendon; at Woolwich, R.M. *v.* Old Carthusians; at Wormwood Scrubbs, St. Mary's Hospital *v.* Croydon.
Hunting Appointments: Staghounds—Mid Kent, Pluckley Station, 11. Foxhounds—East Essex, Braxted, Green Man, 11; Essex Union, Hutton Hall, 11; Goodwood, Bignor Hill, 11.30; Hertfordshire, Hatfield Woodside, 11; West Kent, Eynsford, 11; East Sussex, GardenerStreet, 11,

SUNDAY PREACHERS.

St. Paul's Cathedral—In the morning (10.30) Rev. M. S. A. Walrond; in the afternoon (3.15) the Rev. Canon Scott Holland; in the evening (7) the Bishop of London.
Westminster Abbey—In the morning (10) the Rev. E. Price: in the afternoon (3) the Ven. Dr. Farra
Chapel Royal, St. James's—In the morning (12) the Rev. W. Barker.
Chapel Royal, Whitehall—In the morning (11), Prebendary Baker; in the afternoon (3.30) the Rev. Dr. L. McAnaly.
Chapel Royal, Savoy—In the morning (11.30) the Sub-Dean of the Chapels Royal; in the evening (7) the Rev. R. Rhodes Bristow.
Gray's Inn Chapel—Dr. Stokoe, 11.30.
Rolls Chapel, Chancery-lane—Rev. John Congreve, 11.
Lincoln's Inn Chapel—Dr. Wace, 11; Rev. C. J. Ball, 3.
St. George's Chapel, Albemarle-street, Mayfair—Dr. Gray, 11.15 and 6.30; Rev. G. Hopgood, 4.
Foundling Chapel—Dr. Momerie, 11.
St. Margaret's, Westminster—Rev. H. H. Montgomery. 11; Rev. E. G. Gordon, 7.
Temple Church—In the morning (11) the Very Rev. Dr. Vaughan; in the afternoon (3) the Rev. Canon Ainger.
St. James's, Marylebone, W.—Rev. H. R. Haweis, M.A., at 11 and 7.
Christ Church, St. Marylebone—Rev. J. Llewelyn Davies, 11.
St. Clement's, Arundel-square, Barnsbury—The Bishop of Marlborough, 11; Rev. E. Herbert Taylor, 7.
Bedford Chapel, Bloomsbury—Morning, 11.15, evening, 7, Rev. Stopford Brooke.
French Huguenot Church, Athenæum Hall, 73, Tottenham-court-road—Pasteur E. Noel, 11 and 7.
Metropolitan Tabernacle, Newington, S.E.—Rev. D. M'Ewan, D.D., 11; Rev. Newman Hall, 6.30.
Stockwell, South Lambeth-road—Rev. Arthur Mursell, 11 and 6.30.
City Temple—Rev. Joseph Parker, D.D., 11 and 7.
Clapham—Rev. Guinness Rogers, B.A., 11 and 7.
Craven Chapel, Foubert's-place, Regent-street—Rev. Arthur Hall, 11 and 7.
Crouch End Park Chapel—Rev. Alfred Rowland, LL.B., B.A., 11 and 6.30.
Pro-Cathedral, Kensington—Very Rev. R. Butler, D.D., 11 · Very Rev. Gerard Woollett, 7.
Tolmer's-square, Hampstead-road, N.W.—Rev. F. Hastings, 11 and 7.
Union, Islington—Rev. Dr. Henry Allon, 11; Rev. William Spensley, 6.30; Service of Praise, 3.30.
City-road (Wesleyan)—Rev. W. G. Pascoe, 10.45 and 6.30.
Wesleyan West Central Mission, St. James's Hall—Rev. Mark Guy Pearse, 11; Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, M.A., 3.30 and 7.
Whitefield's Tabernacle, Tottenham-court-road—Rev. J. Jackson Wray, 11 and 7.
Congregational, Holloway Chapel, Camden-road—Mark Wilks, 11; Herbert Rix, B.A., 6.30.
Highbury Park Church, Grosvenor-road—Rev. John Edmond, D.D., 11 and 6.30.
Islington, Colebrooke-row—Rev. Dr. Thain Davidson, 11 and 6.30.
Marylebone, Upper George-street, Bryanston-square—Rev. Dr. Fraser, 11 and 7.
Unity Church, Upper-street, Islington—Rev. T. W. Freckelton, 11 and 7.

SUNDAY LECTURES.

Ethical Society, Essex Hall, Essex-street, Strand—Dr. James Ward, 7.30.
Exeter Hall, Strand (Y.M.C.A.)—Messrs. Fullerton and Smith, 3.45 (men only) and (large hall) 7.30.
Newton Hall, Fetter-lane, E.C.—Professor Beesly, 4; Mr. C. G. Higginson, 8.
South-place Chapel, Finsbury.—11.15, Dr. Stanton Coit, "The Home Discipline of Children"; 4, Sir Alfred C. Lyall, K.C.B., "Hinduism"; 7, Free Concert.
The Theistic Church, Swallow-street, Piccadilly—Rev. Charles Voysey, 11 and 7.
Hatcham Liberal Club, Portland House, New-cross-road—Mr. Hodgson Pratt (President of Club and Institute Union), "Five Years' Work on the Continent in the Cause of Arbitration and Peace," 8.
North Islington Central Liberal Club—Mr. E. J. Harry, "Mrs. Barrett Browning's Life and Poems," 8.
Sunday Lecture Society, St. George's Hall, Langham-place—Wm. Lant Carpenter, Esq., B.A., B.Sc., "Speaking Machines: the Phonograph and Graphophone" (with oxyhydrogen lantern illustrations and experiments), 4.
Toynbee Hall, 28, Commercial-street, E.—Mr. G. J. Romanes, "The Ethics of Christianity," 7.30.

MONDAY.

Church of England Temperance Society's Anniversary Meeting—St. Augustine's Boys' Schoolroom Kilburn Park-road, 8.
"The Starting Point and First Conclusions of Scholastic Philosophy," by M. H. Dziewicki—Aristotelian Society, 22, Albemarle-street, 8.
Medical Society of London, 11, Chandos-street, Cavendish-square, 8.30.
Honourable Artillery Company—General Court.
Bret Harte," by Mr. Eric Hammond—Rectory-road Literary Society, 8.
County Council Meetings.—North Islington, Messrs. D. E. Grigsby and Parkinson, Holloway Hall, 8. Walworth, Messrs. Marsland and Saunders, Munton-road (open-air), 8. Whitechapel Division; Messrs. S. Montagu Samuel and C. Tarling, All Saint's Schools, Buxton-street, Mile-end New-town, 8. West Southwark: Messrs. Haggis and Rhodes, Bath-street Chapel, London-road, 8; Strand: Mr. Curtice Mission Hall, Lexington-street, Golden-square, 8.

FOURTH EDITION.

REVOLUTION IN CENTRAL AFRICA.

MISSION STATES DESTROYED AND MISSIONARIES FLY.

Mr F. Wigram, honorary secretary of the Church Missionary Society, was seen this morning by one of our reporters:

"We have no further news from Zanzibar," he said, "but it is hardly necessary. That which we received yesterday has quite eased our minds. We know our missionaries are safe. The last letter we received was in October, and was dated June. This telegram was dated January 10, 1889, so it is decidedly the latest news.

"By the way," he continued, "there is a confusion as to the words Buganda and Uganda in the telegrams, which it would be well to correct. *Uganda* is the generic root word, *Buganda* is the country, *Waganda* means the people of Buganda, and *Luganda* is the language of the Waganda, or people of Buganda. The difficulty was created by the missionaries themselves, who when they first wrote home used only the one word Uganda, but after awhile, when they had reduced the language to grammatical regulatity, began to call it Buganda. Now, of course, we know all about it.

"I am glad to see that the missionaries are with Mr. Mackay. We shall not likely have any more telegrams unless something of great importance should happen, but we look for a letter from the Rev. W. Salter Price, who is our principal agent on the Zanzibar coast, and who, being the pioneer of our mission there, knows more of the country and condition of things than probably any one else knows. Until that letter arrives, we must be patient, and trust.

"The first great fear was that the Arabs had massacred everybody, but that has not happened. The people of Uganda are very strong, and are certain to drive out the Arabs after a time, and I should not be surprised to hear that Christianity had not been suppressed. Just as happened in Madagascar, where the missionaries were driven out. When after a time we got back into the country we found a flourishing Christian church there which had been fostered by native converts. They had hidden their Bibles, and had, after the danger was past, taught each other and formed a school of their own. There is no stopping the tide of Christianity when once it sets in."

INTERVIEW WITH THE LAST MISSIONARY FROM UGANDA.

"I have just had a most interesting conversation," writes one of our representatives, "with a man who knows most about Murderer Mwanga, who is the chief figure in the bloody revolution now raging in Equatorial Africa. I refer to the Rev. Harry Ashe, a Church missionary (C. M. S.) who has just returned from Uganda, after a four years' residence at Manga's capital. Mwuanga the Murderer—for he is a very bad lot, and is best known to us as the murderer of poor Hannington, two or three years ago—is a young fellow about twenty-three or twenty-four, and was one of the younger sons of the great Mtesa. This much for preamble. "Well, Mr. Ashe, I said to the sun-tanned missionary, "what do you make of all this dreadful work? Are you not well out of it?"

"It is what I have always expected. In Uganda, as in most African States, every man goes about in fear of his life. The slave may be killed by his master. The master may be killed by a small chief. The small chief may be killed by a big chief. The big chief may be killed by a Minister. And the King may kill the lot. No one is safe."

"Were you ever in personal fear?"

"No, for one was always prepared for trouble. Perhaps the best safeguard for the Europeans was the fear of retaliation from the coast."

"What is the strength of the Arabs in Mengo?"—(this is the capital, about three miles from the mission station, where Mwanga's Palace is built.

"I fancy about six. Not more. But you see they had numbers of slaves, and possessed considerable power, always intriguing, and very ambitious. My reading of the news is this:—The head of the King's bodyguard was a man called Mujasi (Stanley's Sawada), who was very bitter against Mwanga for various reasons. Then one of Mwanga's chiefs and Mwanga had had considerable differences of opinion. The chief was caught selling gunpowder to the King of Unijoro, with whom Uganda was often at war. Mwanga objected, and tied the chief up for a time. This chief was a renegade Arab, who had fled from Zanzibar for some wickedness perpetrated there, I fancy, and it seems to me that this renegade and the head of the bodyguard began the plot to remove Mwanga. And if he did send some of his people to one of the lake islands, I suppose he had got wind of the intrigue and was trying to stop it. Some time ago, about a year or a little more, there was a plot to kill Mwanga during a visit to his father's tomb, which was about a couple of miles from Mengo, but his mother sent him private word not to come or he would be waylaid, and either slain or expelled. So Mwanga escaped. Then you know the Arab medicine-men were suspected of poisoning Mtesa."

"Then what is your prophecy?"

"Let me explain. It is the law of the land that the eldest son of the King shall never reign. As 700 wives is not a large allowance for an African potentate, I leave the number of his children to your imagination. In the old days—not so long ago, neither—it was the custom to put most of them to death. But Mwanga's brothers were kept in a big enclosure, which was virtually a prison fenced in with land reeds. Here they had their huts and their wives; their food was brought to them, and they were under the charge of a chief. On June 29 there were only three left out of twenty who were imprisoned. The exception to this law is the eldest son, from whom nothing is feared, because he is unable by the law of the land ever to come to the throne. But Mpawa, who has replaced Mwanga, is Mtesa's eldest son, and that is why, knowing so well how very deeprooted in the minds of the people is the observance of the law governing the first-born, I cannot think that the new King will reign long."

"Then what will happen?"

"I should say he would disappear and be replaced by one of his younger brothers, unless Mwanga can get back again."

"Then what about the missionaries?"

"Well, you see, they have all escaped, to Mr. Mackay, who is down an Usambiro, which is at the south of the Victoria Nyanza."

"The King would be in his kraal when he was seized. How is he guarded?"

"By the bodyguard of 200 armed men, with a host of pages, to wait upon him. When we used to visit him we made him the deepest obeisance, and his subjects trembled before him. Mwanga was silly and weak."

"Then how was the mission progressing?"

"Admirably. As late as June last the church used to be filled every Sunday, the people coming from long distances. I have not the least fear that they will ever become Mahommedan, for their own fetishes—I am not referring to the people who come within their influence, of course are too much revered. In talking to us they said that life in Uganda was like passing over a bridge full of holes. We said that our life began with death, and they replied, "That is just what we want." And then write to us to learn to read, which might be construed literally or as "religion"—was very keen."

"Now, what is Mr. Mackay's career?"

"He was a civil engineer before he became a missionary, and knows the country and the people thoroughly. He is a wonderful fellow. He has not been home for thirteen years. But he is 200 miles away from our mission at Mango, or rather Natata. When the revolution began there were Walker, with whose brother I am now staying, and C. T. Gordon, a nephew of Bishop Hannington (confused as a relative of the great Gordon). In the French mission house were Bishop Lavinhac, Father Lourdel, and a lay father.

The mission buildings which are mentioned occupied about ten acres of ground, with a garden of about three acres, which are fruitful. The house which Gordon and Wallker and I lived in was very comfortable, and besides that three kitchen houses for the boys and women, a smithy, a church which held 200 people, and other smaller buildings.

"How did you agree?"

"Sociably we were the best of friends, but, naturally enough, I suppose, they regarded us as enemies in the business of our daily life."

"Are you not always afraid in African travel of being slain for plunder?"

"No; for the natives know they would be killing the goose that lays the golden eggs."

JOURNALISTS INVITED TO THE MANSION HOUSE.

The Lord Mayor of London has invited the members of the London branch of the National Association of Journalists to a conversazione at the Mansion House, in the evening of February 23. In addition to this act of courtesy on the part of the Lord Mayor, Alderman Whitehead has also granted the use of the Long Parlour and the Egyptian Room for the annual meetings of the executive of the association and of the London branch. As the invitation to the conversazione is extended to the wives of members, it is expected that at least 600 persons will avail themselves of the Lord Mayor's hospitality.

THE MISSIONARIES AT UGANDA AND KING MWANGA.

There were no missionaries at Uganda at the time of the outbreak excepting two Englishmen and some Frenchmen. The English missionaries were the Rev. R. H. Walker, formerly curate of All Souls', Langham-place, London, who only recently went out to Africa, and the Rev. E. C. Gordon, the latter of whom was specially invited by King M'tesa, owing to the name being the same as that of the late General, whose fame was established in the country. Mr. Gordon, who is a nephew of the late Bishop Hannington, succeeded Mr. M'Kay, who is now a missionary at Usambiro, on the south side of the Lake, whither the missionaries fled from the consequences of the revolution. There are now assembled at this place (in addition to the two gentlemen from Uganda) Mr. M'Kay, Mr. D. L. Hooper, an honorary missionary, and Mr. D. Deekes,

HOW MR. WALKER APPROACHED THE KING.

When Mr. Walker reached Uganda last April, he was, by the King's orders, conveyed with hosts and ceremony to his presence. "At 7.30 A.M.," wrote Mr. Walker home, "we set off for the Court, dressed in black coats and white trousers. Crowds of people passed us on the road hurrying along towards the King's court-house. When we came within a quarter of a mile of the enclosure we were asked to wait while notice was taken to the King of our so near approach. After waiting half an hour the messenger returned, asking us to follow him. As we drew nearer and came in sight of the gate in the high (20 ft.) reed fence we saw hundreds of people. As we came nearer still men came running to meet us at full speed. They rushed right up to us, only pulling up just before they touched us. They said, 'Come quickly,' and then, turning round, ran back to the entrance gate as fast as they could; then they returned at full speed, and kept on running backwards and forwards until we reached the gate. The road for some three hundred yards from the entrance gate was lined with warriors, armed with spears and shields, dressed in native style, many of them with faces painted red, others with curious arrangements of their hair to give a look of fierceness to them. I suppose there were six or seven hundred of them, as they lined the road on both sides for such a distance. As we entered between their ranks the drums beat, and all of them shouted and kept up a sort of tremulous cry, quivering their spears as they held them above their heads. When we entered the first gate the courtyard inside was full of soldiers, dressed in white, and armed with guns, and many of them carried red and white flags."

IN KING MWANGA'S PRESENCE.

"At last, after passing through several doors in high reed fences, we came to the court-house itself. A bodyguard was drawn up in front of it. Gordon made me go first. As I stepped over the raised doorstep all in the court stood up—the Arabs, the chiefs, and the King himself. The band played—the band, I fancy, consisted of a big drum, two kettle drums, a bugle, and several native horns. I walked up the centre aisle towards the King, and in my ignorance went up far too near to him. Gordon hurried after me and touched me on the shoulder; I stopped. The King placed his hand on his breast and bowed towards us; we acknowledged the salute in the same way. Then the King and the chiefs sat down, and we, passing behind the first row, walked up to the wall against which the throne was placed, and took our seats on camp stools some ten feet to the King's right hand. The court was full of people, and all along the walls were ranged soldiers with guns pointed towards the door. The King spoke kindly to us, made several remarks upon my personal appearance, and decreed that I was not such a good-looking man as Gordon. He asked if I had come in the place of the Bishop. Of course Gordon, who did all the talking, and told me what was being said, assured him that I had not come in any sense as the Bishop's representative. He then asked if I was a smith or carpenter. Gordon assured him I was neither, but, like himself, simply a teacher. He seemed pleased and satisfied. I watched his face, as our presents were shown to him, at a distance, and he looked pleased and rather surprised at the size of the piece of carpet."

WHAT THE KING WAS LIKE.

"From the description others have given of King Mwanga, you may know that he looks twenty-three or so, has a weak-looking mouth, and rather a silly sort of laugh and smile, he raises his eyebrows very high, and twitches them in surprise, or in giving assent to a statement. He looked a young, frivolous sort of man, very weak and easily led; passionate, and, if provoked, petulant. He looked as if he would be easily frightened, and possessed of very little courage or self-control."

THE ROYAL PALACE.

"The Court lasted some three-quarters of an hour, and then the King rose, and as the band played left the court-house. This house is like all the rest—a circular building, the roof coming down to the ground; but being some 20 ft. or 30 ft. high, inside the walls only have a slight curve. Inside the roof is supported on fine trees for pillars, and the walls are dressed with reeds, almost like bamboo. The floor, except near the throne, where there was the table-cloth, was covered with clean fine grass, carefully dried and laid down neatly. The throne was a white wood chair of native make, covered with quilted cloths filled with cotton wool, and over this the Royal leopard's skin. The footstool was a polished elephant's tusk. The King wore a long white robe, very big in the neck and wrists, and over this a crimson cloth robe embroidered with gold thread. As we left the King's enclosure the soldiers in white formed line and marched on each side of us, conducting us much of the way home."

AN UNEXAMPLED RECEPTION.

"Such a reception Gordon thinks has never been given to any one before. The Arabs who came to see us to-day say they never saw the King of Buganda stand up to receive a guest on any former occasion. They think we are in great favour now, but we do not hang on prince's favour or put any confidence in man. Certainly the King did all he could to give us a magnificent reception, and showed us great honour in allowing us to approach so near, and in standing up when we entered. Surely we may regard this as in some way a sort of apology for his past ill-treatment of the missionaries and their converts. You will easily recognize the hand of God in all this, and feel with us devoutly thankful that He has so disposed the heart of this King."

THE MUSWELL HILL BURGLARY.

LATEST BULLETIN.

The following bulletin was issued at ten o'clock this morning by Sir William MacCormac and his colleagues:—"Mr. G. Atkin's condition continues favourable, and he is able to take some nourishment."

A THIRD MAN APPREHENDED.

The Exchange Telegraph Company learns that a third man wanted by the police on suspicion of having been concerned in the burglary has been arrested at Southampton. The prisoner was arrested by Inspector Peel, and immediately conveyed to London.

LORD SACKVILLE AND THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT.

Further correspondence respecting the demand of the United States Government for the recall of Lord Sackville was issued yesterday. The principle claimed by the Government of the United States is controverted by the Marquis of Salisbury in his despach of the 24th ult.

Lord Salisbury says:—"I will only join with the Government of the United States in expressing my regret that a personal incident of this character should have in any degree qualified the harmony which for a long time past the enduring sympathy of the two natiens has impressed upon the mutual relations of their Governments."

THE TACTICS OF THE "TIMES."

The Parnell Commission resumes its sittings on Tuesday. It is said that the *Times* intends to continue producing evidence as to the delivery of speeches and the commission of outrages in Ireland, and if this be so, writes the London correspondent of the *Leeas Mercury*, we shall have to listen for weeks to matter of a comparatively tedious character. It is whispered, however, that the judges will themselves interfere, and suggest that the time has now come when the evidence should be produced directly connecting the Irish members with outrage and crime.

THE LATEST BOULANGER MANIFESTO.

General Boulanger has (Reuter's says) issued a fresh manifesto to the electors of the Seine with the object of replying to a placard bearing the words—"Let there be no Sedan," which has been posted up in various parts of the constituency. The General declares that France has not another Sedan to fear, since, while earnestly desirous of peace, she is at the same time quite strong enough to defend herself against the provocations as well as to endure the assaults with which she is threatened.

"WHAT A FALLING OFF WAS THERE."

Returns issued to-day show that the revenues of the famous Plymouth Church, over which the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher presided so long, have dropped fully one-half since the rev. gentleman's death.—*Central News Despatch*

We are authoritatively informed that there is not the slightest intention of throwing open Newgate prison to public view, otherwise considerable inconvenience may be caused to the public. In regard to the demolition of the prison, nothing whatever has been decided on the subject.

LARGE STEAMER LOST OFF SPAIN.

REPORTED LOSS OF A HUNDRED LIVES.

A Reuter's telegram from Madrid this morning says :—A telegram has just been received here from Corunna announcing that a large steamer has been wrecked off the Lisargar Isles. Thirty survivors are said to have reached shore but over a hundred persons are believed to have been drowned. The nationality of the vessel is not known, and no further details have yet been received.

MR. IRVING'S WOMEN WITCHES NOT ORIGINAL.

Most of our theatrical critics in dealing with the Lyceum revival of "Macbeth" have credited Mr. Irving with originality in introducing women as the three witches. Perhaps these critics will be surprised to learn, the *Manchester Guardian* observes, that the original patentees of the first Theatre Royal, in Spring Gardens, Manchester (Messrs. Younger and Mattocks), were fully 113 years ahead of the present Lyceum lessee in this respect. On the first production of "Macbeth" at that house, on October 18, 1775—with Younger as Macbeth, Casey as Macduff, and Mrs. Ward as Lady Macbeth—the witches were played by three female members of Younger and Mattocks's "stock" company during their first season. One of these was no less a person than "Betsy" Farren (afterwards Countess of Derby), and another her younger sister, Kitty Farren, said to have been a charming young actress, as full of promise as her subsequently celebrated sister, but who died of rapid consumption in Manchester on January 10, 1777.

VISIT OF MR. AND MRS. CHAMBERLAIN TO HARDWICK HALL

Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain leave Highbury to-day (Saturday) on a visit to the Marquis of Hartington at Hardwick Hall. They are expected to return to Birmingham on Tuesday.

"IS HE THE WHITECHAPEL MURDERER?"

The Panama *Star and Herald* asks this startling question while recording a telegram from Elgin, Illinois, U.S.A., which runs :—"Seven or eight years ago George Hutchinson, an inmate of the Elgin lunatic asylum, was very handy with his knife. He delighted to visit the hospital slaughter-house, and made many peculiar toys from bones. After escaping from Elgin he was captured at Kankakee. He escaped from that place, and murdered a disreputable woman in Chicago, mutilating her body in a way similar to the Whitechapel cases. He was returned to Kankakee, but afterwards again escaped, and has been at large for three or four years.

ADMIRAL SIR G. HORNBY ON THE NAVY.

Admiral Sir Geoffrey Hornby, responding for "The Navy" at a Conservative and Unionist dinner at Chichester last evening, said the demand for an increased navy came not only from naval men, but from soldiers like Lord Wolseley and Sir Edward Hamley. This should prove to all reasonable men that the navy was not adequate to discharge the duties put upon it, but on the contrary, politicians made the silly reply, "What is the use of your talking about new ships in the navy when we have spent much more money on our ships than the French?" Supposing the merchants of England were to be told that it was useless to build more ships, because they had already spent thirty times more money in building ships for the merchant navy than they had in France, the answer would be that freights were rising, and they wanted more ships to do the work they had got to do. This was precisely the ground on which naval officers asked for an increased navy. Politicians were asked to increase our navy proportionately to the protection demanded by our expanding commerce. He did not blame the present Government, because on three occasions—namely, in 1852, in 1858, and again in 1866, when the Conservatives were in power—they found it necessary to expend large sums on the navy, and that expenditure was thrown in their teeth at the polls, and no doubt conduced to the defeats which the Conservatives experienced on each occasion.

LAPLANDERS IN THE FRENCH CAPITAL.

The latest outdoor sensation in Paris is the arrival of a troupe of Laplanders at the Jardin d'Acclimitation. They have not only brought their wives and children to Gay Lutetia, but they have come with an ample supply of reindeer does, tents, sleighs, and furs. For the next two months they will be the attraction at the "Zoo" in the Bois de Boulogne. It is to be hoped that their appearance does not betoken "seasonable weather" from their point of view.

SINGULAR TREASURE-TROVE PROSECUTION.

At the Walsall petty sessions yesterday, John Moran, Patrick Kearney, Thomas Dunlavy, Patrick Ryan, Patrick Fallon, and Joseph Taylor, all in the employment of Mr. Mallin, contractor, West Bromwich, were charged on suspicion with stealing about £80 from a house they had been engaged to pull down in Ablewell-street. The chief constable explained that the men were pulling down these premises and found a sum of money, of which £58 had been recovered. It was divided among them, and when he heard of it he sent and had all of them apprehended. He had communicated with the Treasury, as he did not know if the money would be claimed for the Queen, and he asked that the prisoners might be released for a week on their own bail, except Moran. He asked that he might be remanded in custody to see if the sum of money which he was supposed to have had could be traced. Mr. Jackson, who appeared for Mr. Mallin, said that he had bought the material of this house, and that he was entitled to the money. The prisoners were remanded for a week, bail (£5 each) being accepted for all except Moran.

BETROTHAL OF A SON OF THE "RED PRINCE."

Prince Frederick Leopold of Prussia, who has just been betrothed to Princess Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, was born on the 14th of November, 1865. The Princess is six months the younger. Prince Leopold is the only son of the late "Red Prince," Frederick Charles. He is a captain in the Gardes du Corps, and commander of the first squadron of the regiment, the so-called "Body Squadron." A year or two ago he journeyed round the world, and in the course of his tour was for several weeks the guest of his brother-in-law, the Duke of Connaught, at Poonah. As the sole heir male of his father, he is the possessor of vast wealth in money and estates, and lives in a fine palace opposite to Prince Bismarck's in the Wilhelmstrasse.

A REHEARSAL ALL TO HIMSELF.

Yesterday the Emperor of Germany drove at noon to the Opera House at Berlin to hear a rehearsal of Wagner's "Rheingold." In addition to his Majesty only one of his Aides-de-Camp and Count Hochberg, the manager of Royal theatres, were present. A Court concert was given in the Palace last evening, at which their Majesties entertained some seventy distinguished guests.

OSMAN DIGNA'S NEPHEW.

Osman's nephew Mousa is rapidly convalescing in the hospital in Quarantine Island at Suakin. He was shot in the stomach, and has agreeably disappointed the doctors and the R.M.O. Surgeon-Major Rogers himself by getting better. Pure air, abstemious habits, and frugal fare enable the Arabs to recover from wounds that would kill most Europeans. Mousa is a muscular young fellow of under thirty years, and speaks confidently of returning shortly to Handoub, thanks, of course, he says, solely to the Mahdi. He has eyes as brilliant, clear, and free as a wild animal. He occasionally exhibits a strong sense of gratitude by inviting his new acquaintances, the hospital doctors, out to Handoub to enjoy his and his uncle's hospitality. Of course he assures them that they will be quite safe and be well treated there. He now converses more readily, and states there are plenty of sick and wounded among the rebels at Handoub, and that an English hakim (doctor) could perform plenty of miraculous cures. It is understood Mousa will be sent to Cairo, and ultimately exchanged for some of the Egyptian prisoners in the rebels' hands.

GAS FOR LONDON FOGS.

The *Gas World* gives some figures regarding the quantity of gas sent out by the Gas Light and Coke Company during the recent foggy weather. On Monday last, when the fog was very bad, the output reached the highest point ever recorded—namely, 105,046,000 cubic feet. On the corresponding day of last year the output was only 79,978,000 cubic feet. The increase is thus at the rate of 23.86 per cent. In the course of the week ended the 7th inst. the output was 627,317,000 cubic feet, as against 512,943,000 cubic feet for the corresponding week of 1888, or an increase of 18.23 per cent. Commenting upon these figures, the *Gas World* points out that the Gas Light and Coke Company has been always prepared to meet a demand for gas, ranging from 50,000,000 to 105,000,000 cubic feet per day, and adds, "What would be the result of even a half-hour's failure of the gas supply on a day such as last Monday?"

GOOD NEWS OF MR. BRIGHT.

Dr. Drysdale accompanied Dr. Hayle to One Ash last night, and issued the following bulletin :—"Since our last consultation on the 18th December Mr. Bright has made great progress, and has regained a large measure of strength. He may be considered convalescent from his late affection of the chest, although there are still slight remains of the effusion of the left lung. The chronic ailment has also improved to a considerable extent. Notwithstanding this improved condition great care is still necessary to avoid the danger of a relapse."

M. SARDOU'S NEW COMEDY.

M. Victorien Sardou is having a very busy time of it just now with his two new plays, that will be produced this season. "Marquise," the bright little three act comedy now being rehearsed at the Vaudeville, Paris, is very gay and lively. It is written very much in the style of "Divorçons." It is the story of a very rich and very frisky young lady of artistic proclivities, who marries a broken-down old Marquis solely for his title. The couple have a very lively time of it indeed, and M. Sardou has assured a correspondent that American young ladies who come to Europe and marry titles will find a "moral" in "Marquise" of rather a piquant nature.

TOYNBEE HALL.

The University Extension Society's classes at Toynbee Hall will commence on Wednesday next. The centre is in a flourishing condition, the number of students having considerably increased, and now numbering nearly six hundred. Lectures will be given by Dr. S. Rawson Gardiner on History, Professor Lewes on the Chemistry of the Arts and Manufactures, Mr. Churton Collins on English Literature, and Mr. Pye on Physiology. Professor Lewes' course is of a very practical nature, the subjects comprising photography, electro-metallurgy, pottery, bleaching, calico-printing, and the manufacture of aërated waters, matches, paper, and ink. A Students' Union arranges for conversaziones and excursions. By the kindness of the Goldsmiths' Company a conversazione will be held in their hall on January 31. The Students' Free Library contains 4,000 volumes. It is proposed to take a party of students to Venice at Easter at a cost of about £12 per head. Next door to Toynbee Hall, the Students' residences at Wadham House provide a collegiate life for a certain number of schoolmasters, clerks, and artizans. Further particulars can be obtained from the hon. secs., University Extension Classes, Toynbee Hall, 28, Commercial-street, E.

GORDON MADE A SAINT BY THE MOSLEMS.

The special correspondent of the *Telegraph* (Mr. Bennett Burleigh), writes thus from Suakin concerning the offer made by the Khalifa that if Gordon's nephew, Captain Gordon, R.A., wished to go to Khartoum to see his uncle's tomb, which has been erected in front of the former palace there, he (the Khalifa) would give him a safe conduct to and fro. One Englishman at least, and he was well worthy that honour—Gordon Pasha—has been made a saint by the Moslems, and his tomb is sacredly kept, for his good name, fame, and life are widely respected, even in barbarian Africa. A people who are capable of such feeling cannot be utterly irreclaimable to civilization and the pursuit of the peaceful arts.

HOW OSMAN DIGNA WAS INDEBTED TO THE NEWSPAPERS

In a despatch from Suakin, the special correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* says :—The other day we found in the trenches full Arabic copies of all items of news respecting the movements of English and Egyptian troops, just as these were published in Lower Egypt and also in the London newspapers. In one of these documents there was a detailed account of the events at Suakin between September 20 and 23 last, as telegraphed to the London newspapers and re-copied from these for the edification of Osman Digna and his followers. A long extract from a London journal is among the papers, in which the situation of affairs in Suakin is described, together with the effect of the enemy's fire, and what the British and Egyptian Governments purposed doing under the circumstances including the despatch of troops, accompanied by the Sirdar. We have yet to learn (adds the correspondent) who the spy and traitor is who forwards these communications to the enemy; but evidently he is a Suakini.

BOOTS MADE BY ELECTRICITY.

Brockton, Massachusetts, boasts the first boot factory in the United States of which the machinery is entirely run by electricity. This is the establishment of Messrs. Packard and Grover. A twenty-five horse-power "Sprague" motor has been installed, the power being furnished from the central electric lighting station, and all the machinery in the shop, which is a very large one, is operated from the same plant. The expenses are estimated at considerably less than those connected with the running of an engine and boiler, without taking into consideration the cost of these.

NOT WORTH CONTRADICTION.

The dead body of a man with his neck broken was found on the 27th ult. on the Great Western Railway, near Bilston, Staffordshire. After the inquest had been adjourned for a week, two witnesses came forward and identified the body as that of their former partner, who had left them. Strange to relate, the person identified as being dead has turned up again, and acknowledged that he saw the report of his death, but did not think it worth while to contradict it.

AFTER THE GREAT STORM.

It is believed that the bodies of all the victims of the terrible disaster at the Reading (Pennsylvania) silk mill have now been recovered, and further search has consequently been abandoned. A number of those who were reported as killed have been found safe, and the list of the dead is therefore reduced to eighteen, including fifteen females; but the number of the injured is 106. At Pittsburg the number of bodies extricated from the ruins of the half-finished building which was overthrown by the cyclone is fourteen, and four more are known to be still buried. The Niagara Suspension Bridge which was blown into the river was regarded as one of the strongest in the world.

DIVIDENDS ANNOUNCED.

The following dividends have been announced:—The Carlisle City and District Banking Company (Limited), at the rate of 15½ per cent. per annum. The London Trading Bank, (Limited), at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum for the past half year. The Munster and Leinster Bank at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum. They also propose writing off a sum of £30,000 from the "establishing bank" account and to carry forward £3,700 to undivided profits account. They contemplate taking a sum of £20,000 from the realization of the old Munster Bank estate and adding it to the reserve fund, which will make that fund stand at £50,000. The Maritime Insurance Company (Limited) 2s. per share, making with the interim dividend a total distribution of 10 per cent. for the year. The Union Marine Insurance Company (Limited) 3s. 6d. per share, making a total distribution for the year of 10 per cent. International Financial Society, 9 per cent. for the past year, the amount now payable being 6s. 6d. per share. London and General Bank, 3½ per cent. for past half-year. Peel River Land 2 per cent. for half-year, making 3½ per cent. for the year. Thames and Mersey Marine Insurance Company, 4s. per share (interim) for past half-year; and Direct Cable Company, 3s. 6d. per share (interim quarterly), being at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum.

Mr. Charrington will shortly produce at the Vaudeville Theatre for a series of morning performances the love story "Pierre Leclercq."

Mr. Hansard, of "Hansard," intends permanently residing on the shores of the Mediterranean.

The annual meeting of the Actors' Benevolent Fund will be held on Tuesday next at twelve, noon, at the Lyceum Theatre.

A statement that Lord Harris has received the appointment of Governor of Bombay in succession to Lord Reay is authoritatively contradicted.

Count Hatzfeldt, the German Ambassador, who has been on leave of absence in Berlin for the past three weeks, arrived at the German Embassy last evening to resume his diplomatic duties.

The death is announced of Mr. Henry Snape, at Eccles, in his eighty-fourth year. Mr. Snape was well-known in Manchester and Salford commercial circles as the founder of the firm of H. Snape and Sons, and previous to his retirement from business as the proprietor of the *Salford Chronicle*.

THERMOMETER. FORECAST ISSUED AT 11 A.M. TO-DAY. BAROMETER.

South England (with London and Channel).—Easterly and north-easterly winds, fresh or strong; unsettled, some sleet showers.

WEATHER AT NOON TO-DAY, January 12, 1889.—Dreary, wet, with cold wind.

Readings by NEGRETTI and ZAMBRA'S *Instruments.*

THE MONEY MARKET.

One o'clock.

HOME RAILWAYS IRREGULAR.—FOREIGN STOCKS NEGLECTED. AMERICANS THE TURN BETTER.

There is practically no change in the condition of the Money Market. The supply of loanable capital for the time being is more than sufficient to meet all requirements, and borrowers can readily obtain what they want for the day at 2 per cent. The discount rate for three months' bank paper is still nominally called 2⅞ per cent., but as a matter of fact little business is secured in choice bills at that figure, holders knowing that the competition for bills is now very keen. Next week the price of short money may advance to some extent in connection with the Stock Exchange settlement, but owing to the large increase in the supply of cash since the end of December settlement, outside rates are expected to be much easier.

As the fortnightly settlement commences on the Stock Exchange on Monday there is little disposition to enter into new business to-day, and markets generally present a quiet and uninteresting appearance. In the investment department there is little doing, and quotations are barely so strong, owing to a few sales to secure profits after the recent considerable improvement. Home Railways are still affected to some extent by the Metropolitan dividend announcement, while the wretched weather has also helped to weaken prices. The movements, however, are quite fractional. Foreign Government securities are practically lifeless. American Railroads fully maintain yesterday's advance, and in a few directions a further slight upward movement is shown. The result of the meeting of presidents the other day has not had nearly so much influence as might have been expected. Trunks are neglected, but Mexican Railway issues have been sold, and have lost part of yesterday's recovery. Mines and Miscellaneous issues are quiet.

Some new developments are expected in the copper market, reports being current as to another effort on the part of the syndicate to corner the "bears" as they have done before. We notice the suggestion made with respect to the crowd of new copper companies, that some day it is possible the syndicate may let copper drop to a point that would ruin all these attempts to trade at its expense and crush them into bankruptcy. Whether such an attempt will be made it is impossible to say, but it is one of the measures which the syndicate has had in view from the very outset. From another quarter, however, the syndicate is threatened. We hear that the Alliance Aluminium Company, whose works are in Newcastle, and the chairman of which is Lord Charles Beresford, is now producing aluminium of a quality which admits of alloy with steel. Subject to the question of cost, there can be no doubt that such a metal would be a formidable rival to copper, and would be used for purposes now supplied by the latter material.

Notwithstanding the protestations of friendliness and the actual formation of a union of the railway managers and capitalists of the United States, railway stocks have improved but very slightly. The fact is that the public confidence has been thoroughly destroyed and it will take time to restore it.

We commented the other day on the antagonism displayed on the Stock Exchange towards the Salvation Army, and the little support which was accorded by its members to the appeal on behalf of the Army's food and shelter depots. Subscriptions have, however, been acknowledged to the extent of £500, so that the practical work if not the religious methods of the Army are being recognized.

Subscriptions are invited for shares in the Union Mortgage, Banking, and Trust Company (Limited). The authorized capital is £2,000,000, and the first issue is for £500,000 in £10 shares, of which £170,000 has been privately subscribed for at par, and will be allotted in full. It is not intended to call up more than £1 per share, unless pursuant to a special resolution. The company is formed to carry on the business of a trust company—namely, for the purpose of extending facilities for the safe investment of capital in first-class securities.

The capital of the First Netherlands Transvaal Gold Mining Company (Limited) is £150,000, in £1 shares, of which 135,000 are now offered for subscription in London and Amsterdam. The list of applications will be closed simultaneously in London and Amsterdam on Monday, the 14th inst. The company will acquire and work gold properties in the Transvaal, South Africa (Witwatersrand District). It is claimed that this is the first gold mining company brought out in Amsterdam.

The net profits of the National Discount Company for the past half-year amounted to £56,027, including £4,686 brought forward. After paying a dividend at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, the balance left is £5,227. The liabilities on deposits, loans, and bills rediscounted are stated at £12,471,000, against £12,536,000 a year ago.

We are informed that the directors of the Central Uruguay Railway Company of Monte Video and North-Eastern of Uruguay Railway Company have agreed that the North-Eastern of Uruguay Company shall be leased as from the 1st July next, in perpetuity, to the Central Uruguay Railway Company, at a yearly rental sufficient, after covering interest on the Seven per Cent. Preference shares to give 5 per cent. interest on the Ordinary shares for the first three years, 6 per cent. per annum for the second three years and 7 per cent. per annum thereafter.

We understand that the first batch of letters of regret of the Antofagasta (Chili) and Bolivia Railway Company (Limited) has been posted.

The following are the latest movements compared with last night :—

HOME RAILWAYS.—*Improved*: Brighton Deferred, North Western, and South Eastern Deferred ⅛. *Receded*: Metropolitan ¼, Caledonian, Great Eastern, Sheffield Deferred, and North Eastern ¼ each.

FOREIGN STOCKS.—*Advanced*: Buenos Ayres Cedulas "I" ¼, and Spanish Four per Cents 1-16. *Declined*: French Four and a Half per Cents ¼.

AMERICAN RAILWAYS.—*Risen*: Milwaukee and St. Paul ⅜, Erie shares and Second Mortgage, Northern Pacific Preference, Pennsylvania shares, Ohio and Mississippi Ordinary ¼, Central Pacific, Lake Shore, Atlantic Firsts, and Union Pacific shares ⅛ each. *Fallen*: Denver Preference ¾, and the Ordinary ⅛.

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—*Improved*: Grand Trunk Guaranteed ⅛. *Receded*: Mexican Second Preference ½, the Ordinary and First Preference ¼.

MINES AND MISCELLANEOUS.—*Improved*: Montana 1-16. *Receded*: Liverpool Nitrate ½, Rio Tinto ¼, and Primitiva Nitrate ⅛.

TRAFFICS.—Milwaukee and St. Paul (first week in January) 42,000 dols. *increase.* Canadian Pacific (first week in January) 2,000 dols. *increase.*

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares :—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.				Brighton A.....	132⅜	⅝		London and West.	69	70	
Consols	99⅞	100⅛		Chatham(Ordinary)	24⅛	⅜		London Joint Stock	40	1	
New Consols(2¾)	99¼	⅜		Do. Preference..	105¼	¾		Nat. Prov. of Eng.	43	4	
Reduced 3 p. c. ..	100¼	⅜		North Western	174⅜	⅝		Stand. Bnk. S. Africa	51½	2½	
Local Loan Stock..	103⅛	⅜		South Western	143½	4½		**MINES.**			
New 2½ per Cent.	56⅛	⅜		Manchester & Shef.	68	70		Indian Consolidated	¾	⅜	
India 3½ per Cent.	107¾	⅜		Do. A	35¼	¾		Mysore shares	3¾	4	
Do. 4½ p. c. Ru.	70½	⅜		Met. Consolidated.	74½	5		Oregums	1 9/16	11/16	
Egyptian Guar. ..	101	⅜		Do. Land Stock	69⅛	70½		Cape Copper	5⅛	¼	
Met. Bd. Wks. 3½	111⅛	12½		Do. District ..	32½	5		Nanaquia	5⅛	4⅜	
Do. 3 p. c. Scrip	105½	4		Midland	137¾	⅜		Mason and Barry..	9⅝	⅜	
Birmingham Cp. St	111	12		North British Pref.	75½	¾		Rio Tinto	25⅜	4½	
Liverpool	111	12		Do. Def.	57⅛	⅜		Montana £1 shares	2 1/16	3/16	
FOREIGN STOCKS.				North Eastern	162⅝	⅜		DeBeers new shares	16¾	½	
Argentine 6 p. c. ..	102	4		North Stafford	114½	10½		S. African Explor.	17	¼ xall	
Do. Hard Dols..	67⅛	8½		South Eastern	135	6		**TELEGRAPHS & TELEPHONE**			
Do. Treasury ..	99	6		Do. Deferred....	108½	¾		Anglo-American ..	49	½	
Austrian Gold	92	4		**FOREIGN RAILWAYS.**				Do. Pref.....	82	3	
Do. Silver	69	70 xd		Canada Pacific	86¼	⅛		Brazilian Submarine	13⅜	⅜	
Brazilian 1875	101½	2½xd		Cen. Pacific Shares	50⅞	⅛		Direct Uni. States	9⅛	10½	
B. Ayres 6 p. c....	100	2		Chic. Mil. and St. Pl.	63⅞	⅛		Eastern	12⅜	⅜	
Do. Cedulas I....	51	½		Denver & R. Grande	10⅜	17⅛		Ditto Exchension..	12⅛	⅜	
Chilian 4½ p. c. 1885	101	3		Do. Pref.....	44⅛	5		United Telephone	14⅜	⅜	
Costa Rica A.....	91	2		Illinois Shares	117½	18½		Globe Teleg. Trust	6¼	7	
Do. B	89	90		Lake Shore	106⅜	7⅛		**TRAMWAYS, ETC.**			
Egypt. State Dom.	101	½		Ohio & Mississippi	22	⅛		London Gen. Om...	190	205	
Do. Unified	83½	¾		Louis. and Nash...	85¾	⅛		London Street	13	14	
Do. Preference..	106⅜	⅝		Mex. Cen. Bonds..	70½	1 xd		London Tramway..	14½	15½	
Do. Daira Sanieh	79⅛	⅜		Miss. Kan. & Texas	15¾	14¾		North Metropolitan	17¾	18½	
French 3p. c. Rnts.	81½	2 xd		N. Y. Cen. Shares	111⅝	12		**WATERWORKS.**			
Do. 4½ p. c. Rnts.	105	½		New York Ontario	19¼	⅛		Chelsea Waterworks	260	61 xd	
Greek 5 p. c. 1881..	80	½xd		Erie Shares	23⅝	¾		East London	231	4	
Hung. Gold Rentes	84⅛	xd		Do. Sec. Mort..	105¾	¾		Grand Junction ..	121	6	
Italian	94⅜	xd		Norwich & West. Pref	82	¾		Kent	277	82	
Mexican Converted	86⅛	xd		N. Y. P. & O. 1st M.	54⅞	xd		Lambeth	252	7 xd	
Peruvian 5 p. c. '72	14⅜	15⅛		North Pacific Pref.	61⅞	⅛		New River, New..	350	60	
Do. 6 p. c.	15⅜	⅞		Pennsylvania Sh..	55	⅛		S'thwk & Vauxhall	167	79	
Portuguese.....	65¼	xd		Phil. & Read. Sh..	24⅝	⅛		W. Middlesex	262	7	
Russian 1873	101⅛	⅜		Union Pacific Shares	66	¾		**GAS & ELECTRIC LIGHT.**			
Spanish 4 p. c.	72⅝	xd		Wabash Preference	20¼	⅜		Gas-light & Coke A	259	61	
Turkish 1854	99	101		Do. Gen. Mort..	40¼	⅜		Imp. Continental ..	209	14	
Group 1	26⅛	7¼		Grand Trunk Ord.	10¼	⅜		South Metropolitan	302	7	
Group 2	15⅞	⅜		Do. First Pref..	66	¾		Brush Electric(£4d)	3¼	4¼	
Group 3	15	⅛		Do. Second Pref.	45⅛	⅜		**MISCELLANEOUS.**			
Group 4	35¾	4⅜		Do. Third Pref..	20½	¾		Allsopp	8	¼	
4½ p. c. 1871....	99¼	6¼		Do. Guaranteed..	71⅜	⅝		Guinness and Co...	310	15	
5 p. c. Defence ..	85	5		Mexican Ordinary	39¼	40		Hotchkiss	11½	¼	
5 p. c. Priority ..	70	¼xd		Do. First Pref.	113	½		Bryant and May ..	12⅜	12⅝	
Uruguay Unified ..	41	2		Ob. do. 2nd Pref.	68½	9		Spratt's Patent	10⅞	⅝	
Virginia Funded ..	110	12		Lombardo-Venetian	8 15/16	9 1/16		Liverp'l Nitrates..	23	5	
U.S. 4½ p. c.....				Varna 5 per cent..	8	¼		Primitiva Nitrate..	35¼	7¼	
BRITISH RAILWAYS.				Nitrate Railway ..	2⅜	⅛		Salt Union Shares	3¼	4 pm	
Caledonian	117⅜	⅝		**BANKS.**				P. and O. Steam ..	165		
Great Eastern	68⅜	⅝		Alliance Bank	141¾	⅜		Royal Mail Steam	65	5	
Great Northern....	118	19		City Bank	209½	1½		Bryant and May ..	12⅜	12⅝	
Ditto A	103	4		Consolidated Bank	8	½		Nat. Discount Co..	11¾	12	
Great Western	151	¼		Imp. Ott. Ottoman	11¼	⅜		Hudson's Bay	13⅝	13¾	
Hull and Barnsley	32¼	3¼		London and County	85	90		Suez Canal	86¼	¾	
Lanc. and Yorks...	118	19		Union of London..	40¼	1½		S. & W. Ind. Dock	19	21	
Brighton (Ordinary)	145	9						London and St. K.	61	3	

The following are quotations of securities receiving attention at present, and not given in our list above :—

Bulgarian Six per Cents.	87	8	Spes Bona	5	
Bell's Asbestos.....	17½	⅝	Wemmers	14½	15
Tarapaca Bank	8½	6 pm	Langhagnes	6⅝	¾
Tarapaca Water	15¼	16	Jubilee	9⅝	2
Oceana Land	17	18	Robinson	6½	2
Jumper's Gold	14	½	San Jorge.....	9⅞	⅝
Delagoa Bay shares.....	15	17			

A presentation by the members of the Working Men's College, Great Ormond-street, to Mr. Tansley, in celebration of his silver wedding, will take place at a conversazione at the College this evening. The gift will consist of a water colour drawing by Mr. Albert Goodwin, R.W.S., and some books including Mr. Ruskin's "Stones of Venice" and the new edition of "Modern Painters."

TO-DAY'S TITTLE TATTLE.

Every one must hope that the Empress Frederick may have fine weather for her visit to Sandringham. Her Imperial Majesty has barely another week to spend in the country of her birth, and if it is fine frosty weather her visit to Norfolk will be a charming close to her sojourn among us. Norfolk when the sky is clear and the sun shines is one of the pleasantest counties in England, and Sandringham one of the most comfortable of country seats.

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Princess Alix is not likely to be tempted to a Russian marriage by the experience of her elder sister, who married the Grand Duke Serge, the Tzarewitch's uncle. Their palace is one of the most conspicuous in the Nevski Prospect, although to my eyes the red colour makes it anything but an object of beauty. At first I mistook it for a warehouse, but the huge caryatides undeceive you when you come nearer. The Grand Duke Serge is by no means an ideal husband, and the Grand Duchess, if all reports be true, is very much to be pitied. Still, the son of Alexander III. is more likely to be a model husband than was his uncle.

***

The official denial of the betrothal of the Tzarewitch does not dispose of the story. For although there may be no truth in the report of the betrothal just now, there may be a design on the part of the parents to bring it about, or the young Grand Duke may have fallen in love with Princess Alix. Nothing is more awkward for matchmakers or for lovers than a premature disclosure of their schemes.

***

What, I wonder, were the feelings of the young Princess of seventeen on hearing her betrothal announced before her lover—if he be her lover—mustered up courage to propose? Even Royalties have hearts, and it must be very awkward for a maiden of seventeen to hear of her engagement for the first time from the newspapers.

***

Apropos of the volume of the "Prince of Wales's Speeches," published by Mr. John Murray to-day, is it permissible to wonder—in the very lowest whisper—whether the Prince keeps a "ghost"? Every statesman (who can afford it) includes this useful adjunct in his household; and most of "the admirable speeches made by Mr. So-and-So yesterday" were written the day before by Mr. So-and-So's private secretary. Of course, these little domestic details are not generally talked about. The only persons who make no secrecy about their ghosts are American millionaires, one of whom in coming over to England and advertising once for a private secretary stated that the chief duties of the post would be to issue all his invitations and to write all his speeches.

***

Perhaps the Prince of Wales is industrious enough to dispense with such aid. But, at any rate, he does not expect his son to do so. Prince Albert Victor's ghost was for some time the accomplished Canon Dalton; and I remember once being shown a quarto sheet of paper on which the worthy tutor had written out the terms not only of the speech-in-chief, but even of such formalities as, "Ladies and gentlemen, I thank you very heartily for the kind way in which you have received me."

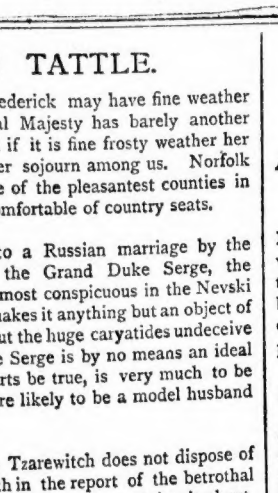
***

Last night the Lord Mayor returned from the visit in State to his native Westmoreland. He looked rather tired, and no wonder. The celebration meant a very hard day's work for the chief actor in it. First, there was the presentation of addresses, at which he had to make several speeches; then there was the opening of the new Grammar School, with a careful and solid speech on the question of classical *v.* modern education; then there was the long banquet, with two more speeches from the indefatigable guest; and besides all these and the consequent processions to and fro, the Lord Mayor contrived to steal away and speak at another unreported gathering, a "high tea" given to about 1,000 poor people by the high sheriff of the county, in conjunction with the local Lady Bountiful—Mrs. Bindloss—and the Lord Mayor's host, Mr. Wakefield.

THE 300th NIGHT OF "SWEET LAVENDER."

AN INTERVIEW WITH "DICK PHENYL."

Some time ago Mr. Terry sent up a big balloon to celebrate the success of Mr. Pinero's charming little comedy-drama which has brought such good luck to the newest theatre in the Strand. Last night he celebrated the 300th performance of the play by setting a portion of the Strand on fire. In other words, the front of the little theatre was illuminated in brilliant style. Ordinary wayfarers were simply dazzled. One of our representatives happened to see the flare up, and thinking it was a fire hurried along to be undeceived. He writes to say that he was agreeably disappointed, but to make up for it he wended his way down the narrow court which leads to Mr. Terry's stage door and awaited his arrival, amusing himself by peering through the gratings into the big kitchens of Simpson's dining rooms in company with a pack of children who were sniffing the savoury fumes.



MR. TERRY'S WILLOWY FORM APPROACHES THROUGH THE NIGHT.

"Presently," he writes, "Mr. Terry's willowy form loomed in the distance. I knew him by the brigandish cloak which he was wearing. 'Come along down into the charnel-house,' said "Mr. Phenyl," and we went through the little stage-door down the steps, emerging into the sweetness and light of Mr. Terry's private apartments. Picture a cosy little room, lighted by electricity, walls covered with photographs and etchings, and peopled by a bevy of blushing damsels, each with a sweet bouquet bound with lovely satin ribbons in her hands. I wonder if these were for poor Dick? The lovely visions vanished, as, alas! lovely visions have a way of so doing—and Mr. Terry (or was it Tom, the dresser?) beckoned me through the gay portière which screened off the dressing-room proper from view; I soon found myself penetrating what Mr. Terry whimsically called the secrets of the charnel house.

HOPING TO DOUBLE THE FIGURES.

"Slowly but surely Mr. Terry transmogrified himself into "Dick Phenyl," the broken-down barrister, who has wormed his way into all our hearts by his good-nature his geniality, his kind ways, and his honest heart, and his fondness for the bottle. "Well, how much longer?" I asked Mr. Terry, as he laid the gum—or was it stickphast?—on chin and cheek. "I really hope we shall double the figures," he replied hopefully, combing out his whitey-grey side-whiskers and laying these carefully on to each cheek. "Sweet Lavender" has certainly been successful, and I hope I shan't want another piece for a long time. "Tom, wig, please," and the transformation became complete. The Terry of everyday life, the poor-law guardian, the ruralizer, and the churchwarden had gone, and Mr. Phenyl, of the Temple, was sitting in the little chair before the glass.

SEEDY DICK PHENYL.

Slovenly, slouching Phenyl, bachelor, Bohemian, barrister, with shirt cuffs fringed, collar crumpled and jagged, scarf greasy, waistcoat slop-stained, with a dirty old red flowered smoking jacket. "And how did you get that wonderful appearance of seediness?" I asked him. "Well, that was one of my difficulties. This jacket, for instance, was remade from an old dressing gown; but I have an article here," drawing back a curtain which hid the wardrobe, which I have had ever since I went on to the stage. It was an old dress waistcoat worked with silk flowers, and very old-fashioned, which Mr. Phenyl wears. "Now, you couldn't buy a thing like that, now," he went on, holding the sacred garment in his hand, and pointing out its beauties to me. "To change the subject, Mr. Terry, do you get bored with your part?" "Not a bit. I like it too well." "Have you abandoned farces and burlesque for ever?" "I hope so, and I hope to follow 'Sweet Lavender' with pieces of a domestic character, natural and pathetic, but with lots of laughter in them."

"THE 300TH TIME, CLEMMY, MY BOY."

At this moment the call boy appeared to announce the rising of the curtain, and both Mr. Terry and I bolted. As I reached the stage door the last words that caught my ear were—"The last time, Clemmy, my boy." A serious slip. It should have been "The 300th time, Clemmy, my boy."

Bord's Pianos. 25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand, 10s. 6d. per month) on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C. Pianos exchanged

WHAT DOES MR. GLADSTONE MEAN?

"WHAT HE SAYS!"—EDITOR "WEEKLY REGISTER."

AN "INTERNATIONAL NEUTRALIZATION OF THE HOLY SEE"!

Quite a new and startling light is thrown upon Mr. Gladstone's letter to the Marquis de Riso by his letter to the Count Jacini, date twelve months since which the editor of the *Weekly Register* has unearthed. Taken together with the "not new" letter approving of the question of the position of the Pope being referred to international arbitration, it would seem to justify the hope, entertained by the Pope that Mr. Gladstone was coming to his rescue. We print the letter as we received it, as follows:—

MR. GLADSTONE MEANS WHAT HE SAYS.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

Sir,—May I suggest that Mr. Gladstone's attitude towards the Roman question is a perfectly simple and straightforward one, and that your comments, and not less the headings you have given them, are not a little misleading? Mr. Gladstone, in his letter to the Marquis de Riso, gives his adhesion to the suggestion that the independence of the Head of the Holy Catholic Church ranks as a matter of international concern and arbitration. This letter being much quoted and belaboured here and in Italy, as if it were a revelation of new convictions, Mr. Gladstone expresses a surprise very easily understood by those who know that he has said before all that he now says again. "Letter not new," wires Mr. Gladstone, whereupon you rather ungenerously retort. "'Not new' means November 15, 1888." But for "letter not new" read "contents of letter not new," a not unreasonable "expansion" from telegraphese, and you can rid yourself from any absurd suspicion that Mr. Gladstone has thought it worth his while to shuffle. As a matter of fact, what he said to the Marquis de Riso a few weeks ago he said a year ago in a letter to Senator Jacini, published at the time in the *Weekly Register*, where it is republished to-day. This letter was written in acknowledgment of Senator Jacini's pamphlet, "The Principle of International Neutralisation applied to the Holy See," a principle which the senator warmly advocates. I enclose the letter, though it will, peradventure, break the heart of one of the leader writers of the *Daily News*.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

THE EDITOR OF THE "WEEKLY REGISTER."

43, Essex-street, Strand, W.C.

The following is Mr. Gladstone's letter:—

Florence, January 14, 1888.

My dear Count Jacini,—I read very attentively, even before leaving England, the work of which you have had the kindness to send me a copy in Italy. If I have kept silence hitherto, you must not attribute it to the multiplicity of my occupations, great as this has been, but must ascribe it to the difficulty I feel in approaching the question. . . . You have treated this subject, as far as I can judge, in a manner worthy of your established reputation. I am completely in accord with you as to the manner of stating the problem, and as to the proposal which you have so modestly drawn up; and I am of opinion that the method of procedure indicated unites all the qualities that entitle it to most diligent examination.—Your most devoted

W. E. GLADSTONE.

It will be necessary to read Count Jacini's pamphlet with care. Mr. Gladstone says that "he is completely in accord with Count Jacini as to the proposal which he has so modestly drawn up." What is that proposal? We must have the *ipsissima verba* before we express an opinion. For be it noted that while he approves of the Count's proposal he only commits himself so far as to the "method of procedure indicated" as to say that it is entitled to "most diligent examination."

THE RIGHT TO A NOM DE PLUME.

A rather curious action-at-law is now pending in Paris between M. Henry Fouquier, a journalist, and the proprietors of the *Gil Blas* newspaper. M. Fouquier writes in several journals, sometimes in his own name and sometimes under a *nom de plume*. For five years he has brought out articles in the *Gil Blas* over the signature of "Columbine," and he now claims his right to adopt that appellation as his own property, although it was used in the *Gil Blas* before he joined the staff of that paper. The proprietors demur, and allege that M. Fouquier had only a passing and precarious "lien" on the pseudonym. M. Fouquier retorts that the name "Columbine" was used in the *Figaro* by a deceased writer, and that it has not been long enough in the possession of the *Gil Blas* to entitle the proprietors of that paper to regard it as their absolute property. Damages to the extent of £1,000 are claimed on either side, but the decision of the Civil Tribunal of the Seine has been held over for a week.

HEATING LONDON CABS.

At a meeting of the directors of the Shrewsbury and Talbot Cab Company yesterday afternoon, Mr. Wilson, one of the directors, saw one of our representatives concerning the cab heating question. He said that the S.-T. Company had not as yet entertained any proposals to heat their cabs; but it was well worth looking into. He, therefore, called for Mr. Woodlands, the cab superintendent, and asked his opinion on the subject. Mr. Woodlands said it would probably be very advantagous to have foot warmers in the cabs, as the patronage would very likely be greatly increased, especially with all-day jobs. Mr. Wilson consequently gave him instructions to make some experiments with foot warmers, and report results to the next committee meeting.

HOW JOHN BRIGHT GAVE A SALMON AWAY.

A Scotch correspondent sends the *Fishing Gazette* a little anecdote relating to John Bright, which, insignificant though it is, may possess some interest at a time when the veteran statesman's sick bed is being watched so anxiously. "I picked it up," he says, "at a little Highland hotel, where Mr. Bright at one period of his life used to stay for a night when on an angling excursion. One night he and his party were returning after a day of poor sport to all except himself, and he had a brace of fine salmon. By the roadside, on a heap of stones, they passed a wretched-looking man, weeping, with his hands on his face, and all in rags. In answer to Mr. Bright's inquiry, he told a piteous tale of starvation at home, of a sick wife, and five hungry children. The Tribune put his hand in his pocket, but unluckily had no change. 'Never mind, take that,' offering a salmon; 'it will at least make a good dinner for you for once.' The sequel was as follows:—After washing his hands Mr. Bright was coming downstairs to dinner, when a girl happened to be crossing to the larder with a fine fish. 'That is my salmon,' said Mr. Bright; 'I know him, for he was hooked on the outside. Where did you get it?' 'Oh, just frae Sandy,' said the simple Scotch lassie. Mr. Bright, looking rather grim, forced his way into the tap-room, where his lachrymose friend sat with a number of thirsty cronies, recounting in full glee his adventure.

The four gilt stoup they'd gart him clatter,
And kirsen'd him wi' reekin' water.

Sandy wasn't a bit abashed at the stern face of the great orator, but had begun a long explanatory statement, when the glance of scorn which had oftentimes electrified Parliaments and hushed mighty audiences instantly silenced the man, and without a word Mr. Bright left the astonished group of revellers."—*Fishing Gazette.*

SMUGGLING BY ROUNDABOUT HORSES.

All the material and apparatus appurtenant to a magnificent roundabout recently arrived by rail from Belgium at the frontier town of Mauberge, and the Customs officers watched the unloading of the fiery steeds and gorgeous fittings. A happy inspiration suddenly came to one of them, probably a classical scholar, who had read in his Homer about Troy and its wooden horse. He narrowly inspected the dummies, and discovered that all were filled, not with Greeks, but with contraband tobacco.

A LIFE OF CHOPIN.

Frederick Niecks's long-expected "Life of Chopin" was published yesterday by Novello and Co. It is in two bulky volumes and deals in minutest detail with every step of the Polish musician's career, which has never been related before with the fulness and authority which Mr. Niecks has been able to achieve. The portion of Mr. Niecks's book which will attract most attention is his remarkably careful analysis of the extent and conditions of the liaison with George Sand, which takes up nearly two-thirds of the second volume. This (says the London correspondent of the *Sheffield Telegraph*)) reads more like romance than biography. Mr. Niecks comes to the conclusion that George Sand's treatment of Chopin was indefensible—that she "was certainly not the self-sacrificing woman she pretended to be; for her sacrifices never outlasted her inclinations—they were, indeed, nothing else than an abandonment to her desires." In short, by the light of these pages, George Sand stands condemned for evermore in the eyes of posterity.

SIR MORELL MACKENZIE writes about the Soden Mineral Pastilles:—"I regard them as extremely valuable in obstinate Catarrhal Affections of the Throat. They are especially beneficial to Catarrhal Diseases of the Air Passages. I frequently found them of great service in the case of singers and public speakers." Acknowledged by the Medical Profession the best remedy for Throat Irritation, Coughs, Bronchitis, and Asthma. Of all Chemists, 1s. 1½d., or 15 stamps, from 10, Dyer's-buildings, Holborn, E.C.

THE GODALMING MURDER.—A STRANGE DOCUMENT.

Investigations which have been proceeding into the antecedents of the man Jenkins, alias Wheatcroft, who is charged with the murder of Emily Joy, leave no doubt that he has for some time past pursued a course of duplicity. So far from ever having moved in "the best society," he is of humble origin, and before he moved to Godalming, and there passed as an artist, he was employed in the shop of a boot and shoe dealer. The following remarkable document in the prisoner's handwriting is at present in the possession of Mrs. Joy, the murdered girl's mother:

Ebenezer Samuel Wheatcroft, M.R.S.A., &c.—December 25, 1888.—Miss Emily Joy,—I, the undersigned, agree to marry Miss Emily Joy, at any time she may state, and I can further state that I have a standing income, besides my small capital, which amounts in cash to £500 10s., and that I will swear that I will never give the said Miss Joy any reason to complain of any unhappiness. I further state that when I attain the age of thirty I have an amount in cash, namely, £600, which I shall receive in quarterly payments. I have no further capital. I will also state that, since I have been with the said Miss Joy, I have never been in company with any young lady, and that I have never in my life committed any offence upon any young lady, and that I was never married during my past life, and I agree to make said young lady happy all her life. All I have said I will swear to on oath.—(Signed), EBENEZER SAMUEL WHEATCROFT, M.R.S.A., Artist.

THE POPE AND THE SOCIALISTS.

According to the *Daily News* correspondent the Pope, in an audience he gave a few days ago to several American prelates, instructed them to strenuously combat the Socialist movement which has lately begun to spread among the Irish Roman Catholics settled in America. If the measures taken privately should not prove sufficient, a Papal Rescript, similar to the one addressed to the bishops in Ireland, will probably be sent to America.

THE LATEST ADDITION TO THE NAVY.

Another new fast cruiser has been added to the effective strength of the royal navy by the completion for sea of the *Narcissus*, which was recently built for the Government by Earle's Shipbuilding Company, of Hull, and has been prepared for commission in the Medway. The *Narcissus* was designed by Sir Nathaniel Barnaby, the late Director of Naval Construction, and is 300 ft. in length, with a breadth of 56 ft., and a mean load draft of 22 ft. 9 in. Her engines are of the triple expansion type, and are capable of developing 8,500 horse-power, with a speed of between 18 and 19 knots per hour. The armament of the *Narcissus* consists of two 9.2 inch 22-ton steel breechloading guns, mounted on Vavasseur fittings, ten 6-inch 5-ton breechloading guns, and sixteen 3-pounder and 6-pounder quick-firing guns. She is also provided with a torpedo armament both below and above the water-line. She is to be placed in the first division of the Medway Steam Reserve.

A MEDICAL AUTHORITY ON LONDON FOGS.

Science and experience (says the *Lancet*) agree in showing that, with ordinarily vigorous health as a starting point, and with reasonable care, no serious danger need be apprehended from the London fogs. The quantity of noxious matter in suspension is at any time small. The amount of oxygen varies little if at all from the normal and water vapour and smoke being by far the most abundant added constituents, the mechanical impediment to respiration is practically the only danger. The aged and the very young must of course feel the fog most, particularly when accompanied by such cold as that of last week. Their case, and, as far as it can be met, that of the poor, form at such a time the rallying points of needful attention. The most suitable preventives of mischief from this cause are familiar to many of us. Sufficient food, warm under-clothing, warmth with ventilation by means of a fire or stove indoors, and for persons with irritable bronchi or lungs a respirator, the simpler the better, are all that need be here mentioned.

The membership of the Bradford Y.M.C.A. has doubled during the past year, and is now close upon 600.

Mr. Bryce, M.P., is on his way home from India, but he will remain for some time on the North-West frontier, visiting Quetta, the Bolan Pass, Peshawur, and Khyber, to study the Afghan Frontier Question on the spot.

Mr. T. H. Rafferty, of Olympia, was yesterday, at the Hammersmith police-court, fined in penalties amounting to £40, and also ordered to pay costs, for having used a wooden building as an amphitheatre in the grounds of the Irish Exhibition without being licensed by the Metropolitan Board of Works.

A large number of officers assembled at the Westminster Town Hall last evening, to witness a war game, which was based on the idea that a force of invaders was marching on London. The proceedings were continued for several hours.

At the Central Criminal Court yesterdaay, Frederick J. Dunsford, formerly superintendent of the St. Pancras Burial Board, was found guilty of embezzlement, and was sentenced to eighteen months' hard labour. Two young men, named Jones and White, were convicted of keeping a betting-house. Sentence was postponed.

A committee meeting of the National Rifle Association was held at their offices yesterday, when the subject of the arrangements consequent upon the adoption of Brookwood as the site for the new Wimbledon were further under consideration. No definite resolutions were come to, and the matter will be again considered at subsequent meetings.

The *Northern Echo* records the death of Mr. Victor Hobson, "a young artist whose splendid promise has been cherished with the fondness of friendship by many north country readers." At the presentation of prizes by Sir Frederick Leighton, in 1884, Victor Hobson was awarded a silver medal for drawing.

The Right Rev. Dr. Ullathorne, who for so many years was Bishop of the Roman Catholic diocese of Birmingham, is at present sojourning at Oscott College, where he is engaged on his autobiography. Dr. Ullathorne has had a peculiarly eventful career. For many years, as priest, he lived among the convicts in the English penal settlements, and he has said mass in the four quarters of the globe.

The Wesleyan Conference authorities have just secured some valuable property contiguous to their book premises in the City-road and almost within stone's throw of John Wesley's Chapel. It is thought that this will help to solve various difficulties that have of late presented themselves, more particularly in relation to the valuable Allan library, for which there will now be central and suitable accommodation.

A NOTABLE CATECHISM.—The *Liberator* for this month contains the questions and answers relating to Nonconformity in the catechism "for the use of families and parochial schools," prepared by the Rev. F. A. Gace, to which frequent references have of late been made in the public journals. Here are two specimens:—(Q.) Is dissent a great sin?—(A.) Yes, it is in direct opposition to our duty towards God. (Q.) Is it wicked to enter a dissenting meeting house?—(A.) Most assuredly.

"THE GOSPEL OF THE GRAPE."—"It is strictly in the line of temperance work," said Miss Kate Field, the bright American lecturer and writer, in speaking of her proposed lectures on "The Gospel of the Grape." "The lecture which I am to make was suggested to me by members of the Viniculture Commission, a State organization of California, and I will advocate the use of California wines, pure, in preference to the adulterated liquors now sold. The best patrons of California wines are the members of foreign legations at Washington. They use nothing else. Neither does the Metropolitan Club, the swell club of Washington.

"WHAT IS MY CHARACTER LIKE?"—In reference to the article under this head which was published in our columns on Thursday, we are asked to state that the "clever little handbook on palm stry" by Mrs. St. Hill is published, not by Mr. Ridgway, as we said, but by Mr. George Redway, York-street, Covent-garden.

ETON COLLEGE.—During the vacation at Eton College the fine organ in the college chapel has been repainted and beautifully decorated at the cost of the Vice-Provost (the Rev. John Wilder). Great progress has also been made with the new buildings now in course of erection opposite the racquet courts, Keate's-lane. The new extensions which are being constructed will cost over £50,000, exclusive of the chapel for the lower boys. Studies are resumed on Wednesday

JOHN MARTIN, K.L.—Mr. Leopold Charles Martin, son of Mr. John Martin, K.L., the famous painter, died in London this week. The deceased gentleman had commenced to contribute to the *Newcastle Weekly Chronicle* a series of personal reminiscences of his father. "With such advantages," he wrote concerning his father, "few were better informed about the literature of the day. The Bible, Milton, and Byron were nearly the only works he read by himself; he was seldom without one or the other in hand when not occupied with his art. At this period my father had as yet made but little mark as a painter. My father and his devoted wife resided in rooms at a quiet house in High-street, Marylebone, a portion being at the same time occupied in an equally unpretending manner by Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg, then nearly unknown, but subsequently the husband of the Princess Charlotte of Wales. Both Princess and Prince subsequently proved truly valuable patrons."

"CLEANING SILVER."—All difficulty in keeping silver, electro-plate, &c., untarnished and with a brilliant polish, may be obviated by using GODDARD'S NON-MERCURIAL PLATE POWDER. Sold everywhere, in boxes 1s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. Four Gold Medals awarded.

"ENGLISH AS SHE IS WROTE"—IN SCHOOLS.

THE January number of *Longman's Magazine* contains an interesting and timely article by Mr. H. J. Barker, the first of a series entitled "Studies of Elementary School Life." Mr. Barker writes as one who knows, and his experiences afford capital holiday reading. We must confine the extracts we make to those choice specimens of composition which the writer cites in abundance: those who are in search of really entertaining matter will turn, and not vainly, to the magazine itself. It may be pointed out that since the publication of his article Mr. Barker has explained that these original effusions are not of frequent occurrence. He has always been on the look out for matter of this character, and his collection will appear in *Longman's*, and in a book on the subject upon which he is engaged.

SAMSON AND THE "IMIGE WOMAN."

Here are the main incidents of the life of Samson as they appealed to the imagination of a boy of twelve or thirteen. After referring in the most enthusiastic language to Samson's extraordinary strength, the youthful essayist proceeds:—

Samson became very sinfull, for he got a courtin a young woman who was a relation of the wickerd Phillistins. Men should never court young women from uther countries, exept they are good. Never mind abart them being nicet looking, if they are not good. . . . As Samson was goin a courtin one dark night, a lion sprung at him from over a garding. And see yer, Samson just cote it by the chin, and gev it sich a crak betwixt its eyes, that it dropped down dead, like as yev seed cows behint butchers shops. You'll never know how strong he was. When they got marrid behold Samson arskt a riddle while the Phillistins was all eating their dinners round him. He told them that if they could guess it, he wood give them without jokin 30 new suits of close apiece. Didnt they try after that; coz they knowd that if they found it out they'd never have to buy no more new close. But they couldn't riddle it with all their thinkin. Then that nasty imige woman went and told them wot it was. So Samson had to give all of them 30 new suits. How they wood larf while they was a carrying them home, speshully when they was trying them on. But Samson never forgived the imige woman, and he woodnt be marrid to her no longer.

The story of Delilah and of blind Samson making sport for the Philistines in their temple is told in the most dramatic fashion. "And see yer," concludes the boy, "afore anybody could slap him, he tugged them two big pillers right down, and the top of the place came smashin in. Sich a smash it was, and it killed them all theer as easy as flies. Samson was killed too, but he didn't mind that."

CHRISTIANITY AND THE NINE LIVES OF THE CAT.

The next piece is a description of the "harmless, necessary cat" by a promising youth, who has since become a surveyor in the United States. A smile of quiet humour must, we think, have played over the boy's features as he penned this theme:—

The house cat is a fourlegged quadruped, the legs as usuerl being at the corners. It is what is sometimes called a tame animal, though it feeds on mice and birds of prey. Its colours are striped, tortusshell, black, also black and white, and uthers. When it is happy it does not bark, but breathes through its nose instead of its mouth, but I cant remember the name they call the noise. It is a little word, but I cant think of it, and it is wrong to copy. Cats also mow, which you have all herd. When you stroke this tame quadruped by drawing your hand along its back, it cocks up its tail like a ruler, so as you can get no further. Never stroke the hairs acrost, as it makes all cats scrat like mad. Its tail is about too foot long, and its legs about one each. Never stroke a cat under the belly, as it is very unhelthy. Dont teeze cats, for, firstly it is wrong so to do, and, 2nd, cats have clawses which is longer than people think. Cats have 9 liveses, but which is seldom required in this country cause of Christianity. Men cats are allus called Tom, and girl cats Puss or Tiss; but, queer as you may think, all little cats are called kittens, which is a wrong name which oughter be changed. This tame quadruped can see in the dark, so rats stand no chants, much less mice.

THE INOPPORTUNE APPETITE OF THE PATRIARCH JACOB.

Another Scriptural story follows: that of the patriarch Jacob. Little Johnny Whittaker, aged 11, handles his subject with the freedom of a German critic, deducing moral lessons therefrom in the most approved fashion:—

The man Jacob was by trade a patriarch. But he didnt bring up his sons to be patriarchs coz they didnt take to it, exept Joseph. He had 12 sons, and behold there was a famine in the land. In them days people lived on corn, like horses do now; not on vittles and tea. People were fond of eatin wheat, speshully Jacob's sons. . . . And behold there was a famine in the land. Never steal corn, for it is a sin; but you can go gleanin, and you often gets a lot that way. Don't quarrel when yer gleanin, but think of yer mothers and sisters, praps dying. Be fair. Patriarchs had more fields than farmers have, a lot bigger too. Nobody cant imagine. Benjimun was the littlest son, but the loving patriarch Jacob allus gave him the biggest mess of corn, never mind how little he was. They allus called pudden, and porrij, and anything like that, they allus called it messes in those days, Joseph could eat a big mess, too; but Rewbin and Juder who was the oldest couldn't eat as much as you might think. *The patriarch Jacob never eat scarcely nothin, exept when there was a famine.* Joseph was very fond of dreaming. The big brothers would allus wake him up when they heard him adreaming, coz they new he was adreaming all sorts of nasty things abart them. . . . . The patriarch once gave unto Joseph a coat all kindser colours, for children liked coloured close in those days. But his brothers were more riled still, what they called roth. They couldn't never see him with his red and blew coat on, without sayin to one another, Behold we will have his blood. The patriarch saw all these things, and he told them how his hair was a turnin gray, more with their carryinson than with the famine. He arskt them to remember Abraham, Izak, and Jacob, and to allus love their little brother. And then Rewbin and Juder and the other men answered unto him that they couldn't stand Joseph's dreams, and that if he stopped adreaming, they would be good unto him, like as they was to Benjimun. This is all that I can say abart this large family.

A DAY IN THE COUNTRY.

An almost pathetic interest attaches to the essay on "The Cow," written by Tom, the son of a "cat's-meat man." "There is what they call cream, wh. rich people eats," remarks Tom; adding, with a pardonable exercise of his imagination, "it is got from cows which are all white. How thankful rich people should be for getting what they call cream from the cows!" Little Georgie Lee's "A Day in the Country" is equally touching to him who reads it in the proper spirit. He describes, not without skill, the walk from the "Ellifunt" to "Voxhole" station; the ride in the train past "Wimmeldun" to "Ashsted," where no policeman lives; the games, the tea "all for nothing," and the prizes. But alas! even a day in the country has its sad sundown:—

Then we all sung a him standin in a ring on the hillside with the supintendunt in the middle, an the big red sun neerly touching the ground. Yer woodnt beleeve. I wonder wether Heaven's like that was. The him we sung was "Tel me the old, old story Of Jesus and His love." My teacher, who stood next to me, she started cryin a bit, she did. I seed her. I don't no wheere we shall go next yere. This is a Day in the Country, and it was all so niced.

HOW FEMALE SUFFRAGE WORKS IN KANSAS.

FOR the further confounding of Mr. Goldwin Smith, take the following extract from the Lawrence (Kan.) *Journal*, summing up the result of the women's vote in that great State:—

The following points our Eastern friends should consider settled by the recent municipal elections in Kansas:—

1. Prohibition has come to stay in Kansas. The last stave in the whisky keg has been broken in by granting suffrage to women in the cities.

2. Contrary to the general expectation, the good women do vote, and their votes are cast as their conscience and judgment dictate; they take a deep interest in political questions, and in a few years all intelligent and good women will gladly vote.

3. The women vote independently—more independently of party than the men.

4. Woman's municipal suffrage in Kansas has guaranteed the nomination of good men on both tickets. The personality of the candidate is very closely analyzed by the female voter.

5. The revolting and disgusting scenes formerly witnessed at the polls are greatly mitigated, and many of the evils and corrupting influences are finally and completely exorcised.

6. The experiment can be fairly classed as a success. The vote of the future will be a more thoughtful, considerate, and intelligent vote. It will be a more conscientious vote, and it will be a vote cast for better men than formerly.

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VILLAGE ECHOES.

At length the villages have been roused from their sluggish apathy by the approach of the County Council elections. The meetings appear to be numerous and well attended. And at last the rural mind is beginning to realize the potentialities of the system of Home Rule so benevolently bestowed upon the country by a Tory Government. At a meeting in Norfolk the candidate declared that, if elected, he should do his best to get a juster assessment of the ancestral halls of the great landed proprietors. Two of the finest mansions in the county, it was stated, are only assessed at £100 and £200 per annum respectively.

* * * * *

From such incidents as this one may suppose that the candidates of the Great Unpaid are by no means having it all their own way. In some quarters, it must be confessed, however, the desire to use the County Council as an engine of rural reform is independent of party. A Norfolk candidate declared at a meeting over which Lord Walsingham presided that although the cottages in that village were better than in other parts of the county, he knew "of lots of old shanties not far from where he lived in which he would not herd his cattle." They were not, the speaker added, the places in which to bring up Christian men, women, and children, and he hoped that under the County Council such things would not be. A campaign against rural rookeries such as the Mile-end of Murewell in "Robert Elsmere" would give the new bodies plenty of work for a long time to come.

* * * * *

There is evidence, indeed, that the people of the villages are not only keenly alive to the changes that the Councils can effect, but that they exaggerate the powers conferred upon them by Parliament. In the west country mining royalties and waste lands are almost test questions, and one of the Cornish candidates, in his address, lays stress upon his advocacy of the Disestablishment of the Church and the abolition of the House of Lords.

* * * * *

It is to be feared that the polling arrangements will not be made too wisely or too well. The electors in the Kentish village of Womenswould, for instance, will have to travel over seven miles to record their votes.

* * * * *

Churchyard or cemetery has been the leading question for some time past in the Northumbrian village of Wooler. At length a poll has been taken, and the advocates of an extension of the churchyard have carried the day. The supporters of a cemetery were confounded by the cry of economy and the people's desire to be buried within the same walls as their departed friends. Cruel disenchantment! The Earl of Tankerville, it is said, will not grant the land necessary for an extension of the churchyard. Old Tory Church folk would appear to have as great a horror of a cemetery as of a school board, and it is alleged that at Wooler, in the crusade against a cemetery, threats of rent-raising and notices to quit were resorted to in order to intimidate its supporters.

* * * * *

The Dissenters of Cynwyd, near Corwen, in Merionethshire, are at daggers drawn with the managers of the National school in the village. They are boycotting the school by refusing to send their children, and the master, whose salary depends mostly on the Government grant and the school fees, is in sore trouble. The Dissenters were unwilling to pay an increased school fee unless they had some voice in the management of the school, and so they have opened a small school of their own in the Methodists' chapel.

* * * * *

The pound may become a trap to the unwary villager. The other day a Welsh farmer drove to the pound some sixty-six sheep which he found feeding in one of his own fields. The owner of the sheep has successfully claimed two shillings damages for each animal on the ground that the sheep had been injured by the farmer having improperly neglected to provide them with wholesome food and water while they remained in the pound. The county-court judge, before whom the case was tried at Newport, thoughtfully remarked, too, that sixty-six sheep were rather too many to crowd into one small pound.

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The Sussex Archæological Society has taken in hand the preservation of the Wilmington Giant. "The Giant," as no tourist who has "done" Sussex needs to be told, is a mammoth figure, some two or three hundred feet high, shaped by Nature's carving on the surface of some high hills near the village of Wilmington. The outline of the figure—its human-like character and symmetrical proportions—has been maintained for a thousand years, but symptoms of disintegrations are appearing, and the local antiquarians are seriously alarmed. Various suggestions have been made by which the "Giant's" features can be secured against the inroads of time, but to carry out any one of them the society will have to raise a fund, so poor is its exchequer.

* * * * *

Heralds proclaim the news! The Pilsley Equitable Pig Club has held its fifteenth annual meeting, and eaten its fifteenth annual supper. There may be those who are inclined to think scornfully of a pig club. Let not ambition mock its simple usefulness. The insurance of pigs is a great village virtue, and it seems to be a prosperous one. The Pilsley Equitable Pig Club has 130 members, having 197 pigs insured, and after making, we are told, liberal provision for future contingencies, four shillings per pig has been returned to those members who have belonged to the club more than twelve months.

* * * * *

The wives of village workmen are, it appears from a case heard in one of the Derbyshire courts, addicted to betting on horses. Peripatetic bookmakers visit even the most out-of-the-way hamlets, and induce the more speculative and less respectable female villagers to put on a horse money that should go to put bread and butter in the mouths of their bairns. It is to be hoped that steps will be taken to stop these wandering bookmakers from ever tempting village matrons into the disgraceful habit of backing horses behind their husbands' backs.

* * * * *

Rookeries of all kinds seem to have fallen upon evil days. The rook itself is now threatened with extermination. The word has gone forth among Northumbrian farmers that the rook more than counterbalances the good of which it is capable in respect of the destruction of insects and of the making of rook-pie by the havoc which it works among corn and potato crops. Since the gun licence came into force, rooks have vastly increased, and doubtless the change in opinion from the days when farmers looked upon them as helpers is due to the birds increasing not wisely but too well.

VILLAGER.

EXORCISING A GHOST AT HAMPSTEAD.

Miss Frith, daughter of the well-known artist, who writes under the signature "Walter Powell" in a Canadian paper, tells in a recent letter the following version of the ghosts at Hampstead:—

There are two rows of old red brick houses at Hampstead, forming an avenue to the church, which houses, built on ground which once belonged to a monastery, are continually troubled by the most unaccountable noises, in one or two cases the inhabitants declaring that the noises, which they *can* bear, have been further supplemented by the appearance of apparitions, which they *cannot*. Not long ago one of those possessing the worst of reputations was taken in all innocence by some people who, till they had been in the place some time, were left unmolested. But very soon steps pattered up and down stairs in the dead of night; doors, previously locked, unaccountably flew open; often there was a feeling, even in the broad daylight, that one was being watched (said my informant) by invisible eyes, touched by invisible fingers. The maids gave warning continually, the children occasionally were frightened, but as months went on without anything actually being seen, the footsteps and rustlings, growing monotonous, were at last almost unheeded, and the household settled down with the firm determination, annoying enough to the ghost, to ignore its presence altogether, a resolution not always strictly kept. One afternoon a November or two ago, the lady of the house sat by the fire in a small drawing-room, shut off from a larger one by folding-doors, reading fairy tales to her little daughter, and as she read she heard some one walking overhead, in a room from which the ghost always started on its peregrinations. She glanced at the child, who was staring at the flames absorbed in the history of "The Snow Queen," and who, wisely enough, had no ears for anything else, and continued the story without a pause. Soon on each of the shallow oak stairs sounded the well-known pit-a-pat of high-heeled shoes, till the steps, staying a second at the smaller drawing-room, went on to the larger room, the door of which opened and shut with a bang; but nothing disturbed the little girl. As her mother read on, some one behind those folding doors was turning the handles softly, pacing up and down the floor, moving chairs and small tables, till at last the reader became so nervous she thought she even should have screamed. Instead of that, however, she made some excuse of resting for a moment, gave the book to her daughter, and taking up a lamp went bravely to the threshold of the other room and looked in. The footsteps ceased suddenly, but peer as she might into every corner, nothing could she see. Just as she was turning back to "The Snow Queen" and the fire, the child ran towards her. "Why, mamma," she said, pointing to a window seat on which the stream of lamplight fell brightest, "who is that pretty lady?" Since then Mrs. S., who is a Catholic, has had that restless ghost laid (this is the nineteenth century, five miles from Charing Cross), and with bell and book the priest and the acolyte have done their best to restore peace to No. —, Church-row, the consequence being that after that afternoon, spent in sprinklings and prayer, the pretty lady was altogether ceased her visits.

IN THE BUSINESS WORLD.

A YEAR'S FAILURES IN THE UNITED STATES.

We commented the other day on the unsatisfactory nature of the statistics of failures in this country, and hinted at the superior way in which the work was done in the States. We have a demonstration at once. In our own case we are confined to the number of failures which have been reported, but nothing is known as to the assets and liabilities. In America full particulars under these heads are given, so that sound conclusions can be drawn as to the extent of the failures, and their effect on the commercial condition of the country. Bradstreet's Mercantile Agency, issued on the last day of the year, a detailed report of the failures in the United States and Canada during 1888, as compared with previous years. The total number of failures in the States was 10,587, against 9,740 in 1887, and, in Canada and the Provinces, 1,730, against 1,315 in 1887. The actual assets of the bankrupt firms in the United States were 61,593,000 dols., against 64,651,000 dols. in 1887, and the liabilities were 120,242,000 dols., against 130,605,000 dols. in 1887. If we had merely the number of failures to go by we should have concluded that the return was unfavourable, but it is really not so. While there were 847 more failures in the States than in 1887, the amount involved was much less, there being a decrease of 10,363,000 dols. in the amount of liabilities.

INVENTORS AT WORK.

The rate at which the inventive genius of the country appears to be at work is quite startling. In the first number of the *Illustrated Official Journal (Patents)* a list is set out of applications which were made for patents from the 1st to the 5th of January, and they amount to no fewer than 251. They come in at the rate of fifty a day, and deal with almost every phase of our life. Machinery has, of course, a prominent place, but we have also inventions for such domestic purposes as preventing accidents to the hands of persons engaged in cutting bread, the simultaneous opening of envelopes and extracting of letters therefrom, and for preventing children looking at their hands in playing the piano. An improved toothpick, a new cut of gloves, a combined whip and walking stick, a new receiver for catching grease from candlesticks, a sanitary ink, and a medicated pillow for inducing sleep, are a few more samples of the little aids to civilization which our inventors are always supplying us with. It would be difficult to say how many or how few in the whole list will hit the public taste; but sometimes an inventor of one of these apparently insignificant but commonly used articles finds that he has "struck ile."

THE FOREIGN TRADE OF CANADA.

The foreign trade of Canada was not altogether satisfactory last year, the total being under that for 1887. The exports were valued at £18,040,000, and the imports at £22,178,000, making a total of £40,218,000, which is £263,000 less than in 1887. As the exports were slightly above the preceding year the decrease is in the imports. In other commercial aspects the Dominion appears to have done fairly well, and at least to have held its own.

AMERICAN SPECULATORS.

The decline shown in stock speculation last year in New York has led to some discussion as to whether the spirit of speculation has been extinguished in the American public. That is by no means to be supposed. It only so happens that there being little to tempt the public to indulge in stock transactions they have directed their speculative faculties in other directions. Wheat, cotton, coffee, oil, or real estate all offer opportunities from time to time for taking risks. The Chicago operators in wheat, for instance, have had a pretty exciting gamble. It is said that Fairbanks, one of the leading speculators, had over 2½ million dollars of paper profits on wheat and about as much more on lard, but a fall in prices has about wiped out the former. Of course, as a New York financial authority says, "It is impossible to know for a certainty the exact condition of such men as Fairbanks and Hutchison, as they are experienced in the business, and every effort on their part during a formidable movement is to deceive, misrepresent, and mislead everybody. Otherwise, if they showed their hands and made known their exact movements, this of course would defeat their success." With gambling on this scale there is little likelihood of the race of speculators dying out in America any more than in this country.

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The QUEEN and the TYPEWRITER.

During the recent Royal Visit to the Glasgow Exhibition, her Majesty evinced considerable interest in the REMINGTON STANDARD TYPEWRITER, as exhibited by the Proprietors and Manufacturers, *Messrs. WYCKOFF, SEAMANS, and BENEDICT, Gracechurch-street, London, E.C.* Her Majesty and most of the Royal suite honoured the operator by having special slips written on the machine for their benefit, which they carried away as souvenirs.

At the recent speed contest for the championship of the world the Gold Medal was awarded to Miss Orr, who wrote on the REMINGTON STANDARD TYPEWRITER 987 words (exclusive of errors) in ten minutes, an average of about 99 words per minute. For full particulars of the Remington Standard Typewriter, THE CHAMPION OF THE WORLD, Address,

WYCKOFF, SEAMANS, & BENEDICT, 100, Gracechurch-street, E.C.

ENGLISH PROSPECTUS.

Mr. Penning, in his report, says, "The main reef on this property is, in my opinion, second to none in the Witwatersrand district."

Special attention is called to the fact that this is the first gold mining company brought out in Amsterdam, and the directors therefore look forward to there being a large market for shares in Holland in the future.

WITWATERSRAND DISTRICT, TRANSVAAL.

THE FIRST NETHERLANDS TRANSVAAL GOLD MINING COMPANY (Limited).

Under the Netherlands Royal Charter and Companies Law, whereby the liability of each Shareholder is limited to the amount of the shares.

CAPITAL £150,000 (1,800,000 guilders) in 150,000 Shares of £1 (equal to 12 guilders) each.—Issue of 135,000 Shares.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST will be CLOSED simultaneously in London and Amsterdam on MONDAY, the 14th instant.

Of the £150,000 Capital (1,800,000 guilders), 25,000 Shares have already been subscribed for, and 110,000 SHARES are now OFFERED for SUBSCRIPTION in London and Amsterdam, while 15,000 Shares will be issued hereafter, if required for working capital.

Payable 5s. (equal to 3 guilders) on application; 5s. (equal to 3 guilders) on allotment; 10s. (equal to 6 guilders) one month after allotment.

DIRECTORS.

The Right Hon. J. L. Greeve, Judge of the Court of the Hague, Member of the Dutch Parliament ("Second Chamber of the States-General"), The Hague.

I. Zijp, Esq., Landowner and Burgomaster of Abbekerk, Member of the Provincial States of North Holland, Abbekerk.

A. Van der Weyden, Esq. (of Messrs. Van der Weyden and Sons, bankers), Amsterdam.

M. Van den Bergh, Esq., Inspector-General of Registration and Domains, Zutphen.

LONDON DIRECTORS.

Donald Fraser, Esq. (of D. and D. Fraser, Edmund-place, London, E.C.), Tickford Park, Newport Pagnell, Bucks, and Witwatersrand, Transvaal.

Colonel Richard W. Selby Lowndes, Jun., Esq., Bletchley.

MANAGING DIRECTORS.

Chevalier P. Van Dijk, Chief Mining Engineer, late Chief of the State Mining Department in Netherlands India, Knight of the Royal Dutch Order of the Lion, The Hague.

K. Spykman, Esq., Director of the South African Trading Company ("Zuid Afrikaansche Handel Maatschappy"), Amsterdam.

Consulting Engineer.—Edward Jones, Esq., M.E. and C.E. (late of De Beers Mine, Kimberley), of Messrs. Jones and Butler, Johannesburg, and 4, Tokenhouse-yard, E.C.

BANKERS IN AMSTERDAM.

Messrs. Van der Weyden and Sons, Amsterdam.

BANKERS IN LONDON AND SOUTH AFRICA.

Standard Bank of South Africa (Limited), 10, Clement's-lane, E.C.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Howard and Mason, 1 and 2, Bucklersbury, London, E.C.

Z. Van den Bergh, Esq., Advocate, Amsterdam.

M. P. G. Kappeyne Van de Coppello, Advocate, The Hague.

BROKERS.

P. Meadows Taylor, 29, Threadneedle-street, and Stock Exchange, London.

J. Van der Weyden, Esq., Amsterdam.

London Secretary and Offices.—Gérard Van de Linde (Gérard Van de Linde and Son), 12, Lawrence Pountney-lane, Cannon-street, London.

Amsterdam Office.—K. Spykman, 124, Prins Hendrik Kade, Amsterdam.

PROSPECTUS.

This Company has been formed to acquire the Gold Mines and surface rights of the property known as "Oakley," formerly as "Prinsloo's Mynpacht," containing about 140 claims, and which originally formed part of the farm called Rietvlei, in the Witwatersrand district of the South African Goldfields, and is one of the most extensive mining properties in those goldfields.

The property is situate in the Witwatersrand District of the Transvaal, and is about 14 miles from the large mining town of Johannesburg, and 40 miles from the capital town of Pretoria, and was originally selected by Mr. Donald Fraser (who now joins the board) when he visited the Rand. It was purchased, and for the last fifteen months has been prospected and opened up, by a private syndicate called the Oakley Gold Mining Company (Limited), and the further capital is now required for development.

The property has been inspected and reported upon most favourably by Mr. W. H. Penning, F.G.S., late of her Majesty's Geological Survey of England, and a copy of his report accompanies the prospectus.

It will be seen from Mr. Penning's report that No. 1 (the main reef) is very large indeed, and of a high average, and is in his opinion "second to none in the Witwatersrand District."

Mr. Penning in his report finally says: "I have no hesitation whatever in recommending this Mynpacht as an extremely valuable gold mining property," and the following is another extract from his report:—

"With reference to the recent discovery of a very rich reef on 'Luipard's Vlei,' the farm which adjoins 'Rietvlei' on the north, an extract from a cablegram received by the Directors, and dated from Johannesburg, 14th December, 1888, may be quoted here:—'New discovery, Luipard's Vlei must enter Oakley west.' This statement, if correct, as there seems no reason to doubt, must very greatly enhance the value of the property."

Mr. Edward Jones has also written reporting as to the expense of stamps, machinery, and the probable result of working as under:—

"4, Tokenhouse-yard, London, E.C.,
"January 7th, 1889.

"Messrs. Van der Weyden and Sons, Amsterdam.

"Dear Sirs,—I herewith enclose a statement of the probable cost of mining and milling on the Oakley property, Witwatersrand Gold Field, South Africa.

"Assuming 80 tons crushed per day for 300 working days, this would give an annual output of 24,000 tons, and taking a yield of one ounce of gold per ton of ore would, at £3 10s. per ounce, yield £84,000, less cost of mining and milling at £1 per ton, would give an annual profit of £60,000, or equal to 40 per cent. on your proposed capital of £150,000.

"From my perusal of Mr. W. H. Penning's report, and from my knowledge of this and adjoining properties, I am of opinion that, with economical and careful management, this will turn out an excellent property, and an average yield of one ounce of gold per ton of ore will be realized, and the above figures verified.—Yours faithfully,

"(Signed) Edward Jones, M.E."

The Company also acquire valuable water-rights, and an ample supply, sufficient to meet the requirements of large mills, may be relied upon.

There is a new Sandicroft 20-stamp battery, with Marshall 20 horse power engine and boiler, hauling gear, pumps, &c., upon the property, which are included in the purchase.

"The Manager's Report for December, 1888, gives details, and shows that if the 'Owners' Reef' opens at 2½ feet, and a half oz. at the second level he can easily keep the 20-stamp battery going from this piece alone."

Additional machinery up to 60 stamps will be erected as required, and its purchase is justified by the prospects shown by the development up to date.

The working capital will be £15,000, with a reserve of a like amount, and this is considered ample for the erection of the new machinery and development of the mine.

The Directors have been fortunate to secure the service of Mr. Edward Jones, C.E. and M.E., late of the De Beers Mine, Kimberley, as consulting engineer, who is starting at once for the Transvaal, and immediately upon his arrival will superintend the erection of the battery and mills, and at the same time direct the mining operations on the reefs.

After having been further developed the property could be subdivided and parts sold to subsidiary Companies, and by these means the shareholders would have a considerable part of the money subscribed refunded to them.

Excellent coal can be obtained on the Witwatersrand District, as stated in Mr. Penning's report, and from a Reuter's telegram to the "Cape Argus," dated Johannesburg, December 5th, President Kruger, in a speech made at Johannesburg on December 3rd, is reported to have stated as follows: "It was their intention to take over as much coal as would give a cheap supply to the district, and that the tramways and coal mines would belong to the Government, and be worked solely for the benefit of the gold mines. He hoped to supply Johannesburg with coal at two or three shillings a bag." From this fact the directors confidently hope that the Company will be able to obtain coal at the mine at about twenty to thirty shillings per ton.

As is well known, the shares of most of the Companies working in the Witwatersrand Goldfields are much in demand, and stand at a large premium.

The following list shows the present price of the £1 shares in the various Companies now working on the Rand:—

Robinson's De Villiers	£38	0	0	to £60	0 0
Ferreiras	17	15	0	„	18 5 0
Salisbury	21	0	0	„	22 0 0
Jumpers	13	5	0	„	13 10 0
Jubilee	7	15	0	„	8 0 0
Crown Reef	8	5	0	„	8 10 0
Wemmers	14	10	0	„	15 0 0
City and Suburban	8	10	0	„	8 17 6
Langlaagtes	6	2	6	„	6 7 6
Moss Rose	5	10	0	„	5 15 0
Wolhuters	3	17	6	„	4 0 0
Goldfields of South Africa	3	10	0	„	3 15 0
May	6	0	0	„	6 10 0
Knights	3	2	6	„	3 7 6
Bantjes	3	17	6	„	4 2 6
Aurora	3	17	6	„	4 0 0
Metropolitan	1	10	0	„	2 0 0
Main Reef	2	17	6	„	3 0 0
Van Ryn	2	2	6	„	2 7 6
Geldenhuis	2	5	0	„	3 0 0
Spes Bona	5	10	0	„	6 0 0

The Vendor, Mr. Klaas Spykman, has fixed the purchase money at £120,000, which is payable £25,000 in cash, and £95,000 in cash or fully paid up shares, at the option of the Company. This purchase money includes the surface value, also the valuable water-rights, and all the mining plant, machinery, and effects which are now upon the property.

The vendor, who is the promoter, will bear all the expenses up to the allotment, including the usual brokerage, and reserves to himself the right to contract with third parties for this purpose, and the shareholders will be deemed to have waived further particulars of any such contracts.

Applications for shares should be made on the form accompanying the prospectus, and should be forwarded to the London Bankers of the Company, together with the amount of the deposit. If no allotment is made, the amount received on deposit will be returned in full.

Prospectuses and forms of application can be obtained of the Secretary, at the Offices of the Company, at the Bankers, and Solicitors.

Attention is particularly directed to the plans accompanying the Prospectus, the one showing the sections of the reefs on the property, and the other the position of the property in the South African Goldfields.

The original reports on the property, with plans, can be seen at the offices of the Company in London and Amsterdam.

11th January, 1889.

BANK OF NEW ZEALAND (Incorporated by Act of General Assembly, the 29th of July, 1861).

Bankers to the New Zealand Government.

LONDON BOARD.

J. A. Ewen Esq., (of Sargood, Son, & Ewen)
Right Hon. Sir James Fergusson, Bart., M.P.
Hon. Sydney Carr Glyn.
Sir Penrose G. Julyan, K.C.M.G., C.B.
Right Hon. A. J. Mundella, M.P.
Hon. David Murray, M.L.C. of Adelaide (D. and W. Murray, London).

Authorized Capital	£2,000,000
Capital Subscribed	1,200,000
Reserve Liability of Shareholders	1,500,000

Head Office, Auckland.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

In Australia.—Adelaide, Melbourne, Newcastle, and Sydney.

In Fiji.—Suva, Levuka.

In New Zealand.—Auckland, Blenheim, Christchurch, Dunedin, Invercargill, Napier, Nelson, New Plymouth, Wellington, and at ninety-seven other towns and places throughout the Colony.

This Bank grants drafts on all its branches and agencies, and transacts every description of banking business connected with New Zealand, Australia, and Levuka, Fiji, on the most favourable terms.

The London Office receives Fixed Deposits of £50 and upwards, rates and particulars of which can be ascertained on application.

T. G. Pleydell, Acting Manager,
No. 1, Queen Victoria-street,
Mansion House, E.C.

THE LANCASHIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.—DIVIDEND.—Notice is hereby given that the HALF-YEARLY DIVIDEND on the Capital Stock of the Company, at the rate of £15 per cent. per annum, free from income tax, will be PAID at the Bankers on and after the 21st inst.

The Transfer Books will be Closed from the 3rd to 22nd inst., both inclusive.

George Stewart, General Manager.
Manchester, January 3, 1889.

PHŒNIX FIRE OFFICE,

19, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.,

AND

57, CHARING CROSS, S.W.

NORTHERN ASSURANCE COMPANY. Established 1836.
London: 1, Moorgate-street, E.C.
Aberdeen: 1, Union-terrace.

INCOME AND FUNDS (1887).

Fire Premiums £607,000 | Life Premiums	£167,000
Interest	143,000
Accumulated Funds	£3,421,003

WESTMINSTER FIRE OFFICE, 27, King-street, Covent-garden.
Founded A.D. 1717. Losses promptly paid.
Insurances arranged by Telephone No. 3,692.
Charles Rouse Browne, Secretary.

IMPERIAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY. Established 1803. 1, Old Broad-street, E.C.; 22, Pall-mall, S.W. Subscribed Capital, £1,200,000; paid up, £300,000; total invested funds, over £1,600,000. E. Cozens Smith, Gen. Manager.

Application for any part of the undermentioned Share Capital will be received on the part of the Company by its Bankers, the London and Westminster Bank, Lothbury, E.C.; the Commercial Bank of Scotland, Edinburgh, or any of its branches throughout Scotland; and at 123, Bishopsgate-street, London, E.C.; and the Bank of Ireland, or its branches in Ireland.

THE UNION MORTGAGE, BANKING, AND TRUST COMPANY (Limited).

AUTHORIZED SHARE CAPITAL £2,000,000.

FIRST ISSUE £500,000, in 50,000 shares of £10 each, of which 17,000 shares (£170,000) have been privately subscribed for at par before the issuing of this Prospectus, and will be allotted in full.

Payments.—2s. 6d. on Application, 2s. 6d. on Allotment, 5s. nine months after Allotment, 5s. fifteen months after Allotment, 5s. two years after Allotment. Any portion of the above payments may be made in advance, and will rank for dividends from the date when the payment is made.

Important Provision in respect to Calls.

It is not intended to call up any part of the remaining £9 per share unless pursuant to a Special Resolution, passed in due form by three-fourths of the shareholders at two Extraordinary meetings of the Company.

SPECIAL TRUSTEES.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Kintore.
The Most Hon. the Marquis of Carmarthen, M.P.
The Right Hon. the Viscount Combermere.

GENERAL TRUSTEES.

The Right Hon. Lord Arthur Hill, M.P., President.
The Right Hon. John Young, D.L., J.P., Galgorm Castle, Ballymena, Ireland.
Sir Herbert E. Maxwell, Bart., M.P., Whauphill, Wigtonshire, N.B.
Austin Corbin, Esq., President of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Co.
Alfred A. Clark, Esq., of Messrs. Wilkinson, Heywood, and Clark, Merchants.
J. Fortescue-Harrison, Esq., J.P., Director of the Provident Life Office.
Ernest S. Inman, Esq., late General Manager of the Inman Steamship Co.
Thomas Reid, Esq., of Messrs. Alex. Reid and Sons, Merchants, Glasgow.
Emmet H. Ross, Esq., Director of the Mexican General Land Mortgage Co.
Wm. Johnstone Steele, Esq., Director of the National Bank of New Zealand (Limited).
William C. Prescott, Esq., late Manager Capitol Freehold Land Co. (Managing Trustee).

BANKERS.

London—The London and Westminster Bank, Lothbury, E.C.
Scotland—The Commercial Bank of Scotland and its Scottish and London Branches.
Ireland—The Bank of Ireland and its Branches.

BROKERS.

London—Arthur J. Phillips, Esq., 19, Change-alley, E.C.
Liverpool—Messrs. Corbett Lowe and Black, 5, York-buildings, Dale-street.
Manchester—Messrs. Pixton and Coppock, 12, Half Moon-street.
Leicester—Messrs. T. Wilshere and Sons, 42, Belvoir-street.
Edinburgh—Messrs. J. D. Walker and Watson, 14, South St. Andrew's-street.
Glasgow—Messrs. Fraser, Kirkpatrick, and Smith, 88, St. Vincent-street.
Aberdeen—H. Campbell Gordon, Esq., 23, Union-street.
Belfast—Messrs. Shaw and Joy, 34, Royal-avenue.

AMERICAN AGENTS.

The Corbin Banking Company of New York, 115, Broadway, New York City.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Ashurst, Morris, Crisp, and Co., 6, Old Jewry, London, E.C.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. Turquand, Youngs, Welse, Bishop, and Clark, 41, Coleman-street, E.C.

SECRETARY.—Mr. Geo. H. Bullock.

Offices.—Dashwood House, 9, New Broad-street, London, E.C.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

This Company is formed for the purpose of extending facilities for the safe investment of capital in first-class securities.

This Company proposes in the first instance to lend money only on first mortgages of improved agricultural property in the United States, at not more than 40 per cent. of its marketable value.

It proposes to receive money from investors at a fair rate of interest in exchange for its debentures, which will form a charge on all its mortgage investments, reserve fund, uncalled capital, and other assets, and to invest the same at a higher rate of interest in small amounts, thus acquiring the guarantee for safety afforded by the law of average.

The Corbin Banking Company of New York, in undertaking the agency of this Company, brings to the latter the benefit of its vast experience in making investments, and in realizing profits similar to those of the Companies and private clients which have dealt with it or its members for the last thirty-five years.

The Corbin Banking Company is widely known in Great Britain, and through it more than £2,500,000 of British capital has been invested within the last twelve years.

The following are the last dividends declared by the principal American Mortgage Companies:—

	Scottish American Mortgage Company	Colonial and United States Mortgage Company	British and American Mortgage Company	Dundee Mortgage and Trust Company	Trustees Freehold Land and Mortgage Company	New England Mortgage Security Company	General Average
Present price of Shares.	152	240	112½	143	108	100	124
Aggregate Dividend and Reserve percentage.	15½	17	11¼	13	14	13¾	14
Percentage per Annum.	3	7	1¼	3	4	1¼	3¼
Percentage of Reserve to paid-up Capital.	41	70	16	57	57½	15	42½
Reserve.	119,000	93,000	31,000	127,000	30,000	30,000	61,166
Dividends paid.	12½	10	10	10	10	12	10 1·5
Registered.	1874	1890	1878	1876	1879	1875	

Within the past twenty years the Insurance Companies and Savings Banks of the Eastern United States have, with Government approval, gradually transferred their investments to Western and Southern Farm Mortgages. The aggregate amount is known to have exceeded £24,000,000.

This Company, therefore, proposes to deal only with legitimate business of high character. Its shareholders may anticipate dividends of not less than 6 per cent. on the first year's business, and 10 per cent. thereafter.

The only contracts entered into are:—Between the Company and Emmet H. Ross, dated the 15th of June and 13th of December, 1888, and between William C. Prescott, Trustee on behalf of the Company, and the Corbin Banking Company, dated October 17, 1888, appointing the latter this Company's sole Agents. These Contracts can be seen at the offices of the solicitors.

Applications for Prospectuses, &c., can be made to the bankers, brokers, or secretary of the Company.

William C. Prescott, Managing Trustee.
George H. Bullock, Secretary.
London, January 7, 1889.

Established 1803

THE LIBERATOR BUILDING SOCIETY,
20, Budge-row, Cannon-street, London, E.C.
FIVE PER CENT. PAID ON SHARES (£30 each), and on deposits of £500 and upwards made for fixed terms.
DEPOSITS of £5 and upwards at ONE MONTH'S NOTICE, FOUR PER CENT.
For particulars apply to the Secretary,
F. H. Rocke.

MONARCH INVESTMENT BUILDING SOCIETY. Established 1857.
Total advances made exceed £1,385,685.
DEPOSITS received at 3½ and 4 per cent., subject to arrangement as to withdrawal.
DIVIDENDS paid half-yearly through the post.
For forms of application apply to
W. H. Mavers, Secretary.
Offices: 23, Finsbury-circus, E.C.

SOUND SHOP PROPERTY INVESTMENT, near Notting-hill-gate. For sale to pay a perfectly safe 8½ per cent. Price £720. Lease 72 years.—Full particulars from Mr. L., 401, Brighton-road, Croydon.

AT ALL RAILWAY BOOKSTALLS AND NEWSAGENTS.

THE

PALL MALL BUDGET

Of THIS WEEK contains

"TO EVERY LOVER OF A DOG;" or, The Starving and Homeless Dogs of London. *With a full-page Illustration and Special Sketches by the Popular Artist, Mr. J. YATES CARRINGTON.*

A NEW LOVE STORY by Mrs. HODGSON BURNETT, Author of "Little Lord Fauntleroy."

THE MYSTERIOUS CASKET. *Illustrated.*

WHAT LONDON EATS AND DRINKS. An Interview with the Gattis. *With Sketches.*

HAVE I MADE THE BEST USE OF MY LIFE. By "GENERAL" BOOTH.

AT THE STUART EXHIBITION. *Illustrated.*

RECENT ADDITIONS AT THE "ZOO." *With Sketches.*

COLONEL NORTH'S BALL.

THE LATEST FADS AND FASHIONS.

Price FOURPENCE; Post-free, FOURPENCE HALFPENNY.

OFFICES, 2, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

THE COUNTY COUNCILS CONTEST.—REYNOLDS'S NEWSPAPER. The only Republican and Democratic Journal published in the United Kingdom.

A BRACE OF BRUTES. By Gracchus. — REYNOLDS'S NEWSPAPER.—Political Motto:—"Government of the People, by the People, for the People."

SACRIFICED TO VANITY. By Northumbrian.—REYNOLDS'S NEWSPAPER. — Circulates in Every Quarter of the Globe. More than Two Million Readers.

PRIVILEGE, PECULATION, AND PROFLIGACY.—REYNOLDS'S NEWSPAPER. Special Telegrams and Cablegrams from our Correspondents in all Parts of the World. All the News of the Week up to an early hour on Sunday morning.

PARSONS IN A PASSION. REYNOLDS'S NEWSPAPER.—The Political Leaders deal exhaustively with all matters affecting the interests of the People.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN: WHAT HE IS, WHAT HE WAS, AND WHAT HE WILL BE.—REYNOLDS'S NEWSPAPER.—POLITICS for the PEOPLE, exposing the Iniquities of Monarchical and Aristocratic Government. Parliament from the Reporters Gallery, by "M.P." Descriptive of Scenes in the House and of Eminent Members of Parliament.

THE CAPITALIST CONSPIRACIES. — REYNOLDS'S NEWSPAPER. — LABOUR and WAGES. — Labour Disputes, Trades Unions, Information for the Masses.

STORIES FOR THE PEOPLE.—REYNOLDS'S NEWSPAPER. — The Latest Law Intelligence, the Assizes, and High Courts of Justiciary. Fuller Reports than in any other Weekly Paper.

THE DEMOCRATIC SHOW. REYNOLDS'S NEWSPAPER. — The Ablest Articles on Home and Foreign Politics, Monarchy, Imperialism, and Republicanism.

PUBLIC AND SOCIAL LETTERS. REYNOLDS'S NEWSPAPER.—Answers to Correspondents — Legal Advice on every subject given gratis. Enormous circulation. One Penny Weekly.

THE ILLUSTRATED CARPENTER AND BUILDER.

(New Volume just commenced.)

DESIGN FOR A DETACHED VILLA AT THE SEASIDE—Brickmaking: a Practical Article—Carriage Painting—Important Correspondence on Measuring the Circle—Criticisms on Classic Architecture.

HOW TO MAKE A WARDROBE.

Our Inventors' Column and New Patents, illustrated; London and Provincial Labour Notes; also the ever interesting and useful column of Notes and Queries. The ILLUSTRATED CARPENTER and BUILDER, One Penny Weekly, can be transmitted through the post. Send Three-halfpence for specimen copy. Quarterly subscriptions, 1s. 8d.; post free; Half-yearly, 3s. 3d.; Yearly, 6s. 6d.

John Dicks, 313, Strand, London. All Newsagents.

SPURGEON'S EVANGELISTS conduct Song Service, "Heaven our Home," in Exeter Hall SATURDAY, 8 P.M., 5,000 free seats. Band. Choir Also services on Sunday. Men only, 3.45. Public, 7.30.

SPECIAL MEETINGS TO-MORROW by SPURGEON'S EVANGELISTS, in Exeter Hall. Men Only 3.45. Public 7.30. Choir, Band, Organ. SONG SERVICE, "Heaven our Home," TO-NIGHT at 8. 5,000 Seats. All welcome.

FREE SUNDAY LECTURES.—ETHICAL SOCIETY, Essex Hall, Essex-street, Strand. A course of three lectures on "The Moral Education of the Young" will be given by Dr. James Ward, of Cambridge, Miss Hughes, and Mrs. Bryant, D.Sc., on SUNDAY EVENING, 13th and 20th inst., and February 3 respectively, at 8 P.M.

MR. ERIC HAMMOND will LECTURE to the Rectory-road Literary Society (opposite G. E. R. station) on "Bret Harte," on MONDAY, January 14, at 8 o'clock. Admission 6d.

CHRISTIAN KINGDOM SOCIETY, for the Promotion of God's Kingdom of Righteousness, Unselfishness, and Love. Its only Rule an honest endeavour to be loyal to the Spirit of Christ. Those attracted by it should write to Secretary, 20, St. Bride-street, E.C.

GREAT NORTHERN CENTRAL HOSPITAL, Holloway-road, N.

President.—H.R.H. Prince Albert Victor of Wales.
Chairman.—C. T. Murdoch, Esq., M.P.
Treasurer.—W. Burdett-Coutts, Esq., M.P.

Contributions are earnestly solicited towards the £20,000 required to complete the New Buildings, the first portion of which was opened by the Prince and Princess of Wales in July last.

William T. Grant Secretary.

GROSVENOR HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN, Vincent-square, Westminster.

The COMMITTEE Urgently APPEAL for FUNDS to carry out the much needed improvement of Rebuilding the Hospital. £15,000 is required for this object. Donations towards this fund and annual subscriptions are earnestly solicited.

F. C. Howard, Secretary.

THE DESTITUTE POOR.—The LONDON SAMARITAN SOCIETY and HOMERTON MISSION is in NEED of FUNDS to provide Coal, Bread, Grocery, and Lodgings to the Destitute, by a system of tickets available all over London and Suburbs.

Copies of which will be sent on application.

Donations will be thankfully received by the Bankers, London and County Bank, Amhurst-road, Hackney; Messrs. Josiah Beddow and Son, Chartered Accountants, 2, Gresham-buildings, E.C.; or by the Director,

John James Jones,
98, High-street, Homerton, E.

AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, TASMANIA.—ORIENT LINE. FORTNIGHTLY MAIL SERVICE.

The following Steamships belonging to the ORIENT AND PACIFIC COMPANIES leave LONDON as under, PLYMOUTH one day later, NAPLES nine days later, for ALBANY, ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE, and SYDNEY direct, with her Majesty's Mails, taking passengers for all Ports in AUSTRALASIA:—

	Tons.	H.P.		
IBERIA	4,732	4,200	Jan. 18.
ORMUZ	6,116	8,500	Feb. 1.
CUZCO	3,918	4,000	Feb. 15.
ORIENT	5,376	6,000	Mar. 1.
LUSITANIA	3,872	4,000	March 15.
OROYA	6,184	7,000	March 29

The steamers will call at Colombo until further notice

Loading Berth, Tilbury Docks.
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